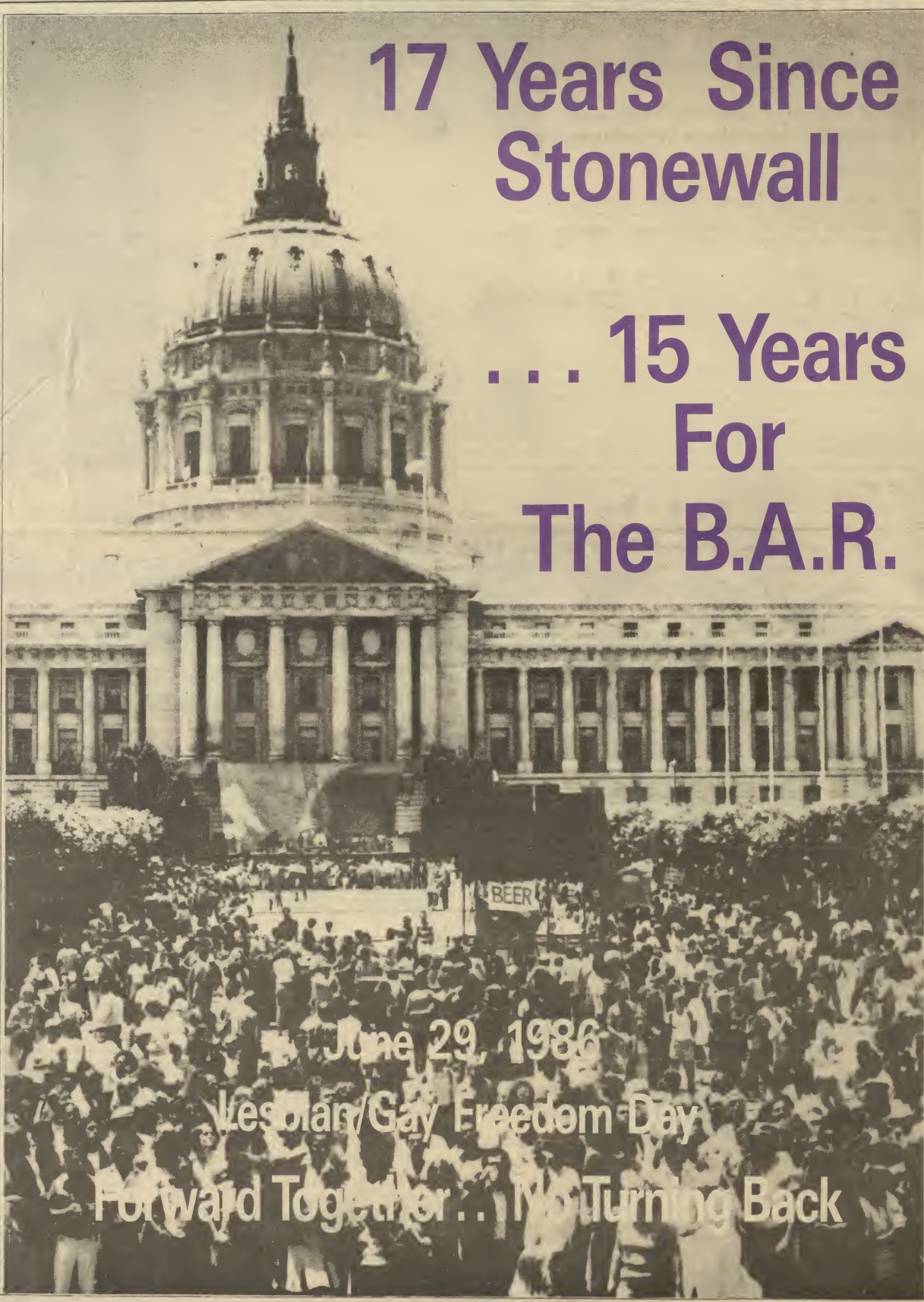


BAY AREA REPORTER

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17 Years Since Stonewall

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June 29, 1986

Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day

Forward Together... No Turning Back

Photo: Rink

B.A.R.

No PWA Speakers At Parade Rally

People With AIDS Seen As 'Separatist'; Committee Wants 'Words of Unification'

by Allen White

No person with AIDS will be allowed on the stage at the 1986 Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Celebration. The celebration co-chairs say they are "using a new philosophy" to exclude "segmented and separatist" speakers "only addressing issues."

The People With AIDS Alliance met Friday, June 22 and claim they were misled and deceived by Parade Board President Ken Jones. Saturday they issued a statement stating they were "disillusioned and saddened that a person with AIDS or ARC will not be allowed to speak."

"We feel we were not fully apprised of the decision-making process to select the speakers and, in fact, were presented with a list of four speakers and assured that these were the only people making presentations," said the PWA Alliance statement.

"We are committed to insuring that people with AIDS and ARC are visible and active in the entire lesbian and gay community."

"Because AIDS impacts our entire community and people



Richard Rector (Photo: Rink)

with AIDS and ARC are, and will continue to be, a valuable part of the lesbian and gay community, and because the celebration represents our entire community, we feel that our presence on the stage is imperative," they said.

In spite of what they felt was "an inadequate consideration of our participation as members of the speaker's platform, we are committed to working with the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Freedom Parade and Celebration Committee to insure that our involvement will be more visible from the stage in the future," said the group's statement.

It became apparent about two weeks ago that the exclusion of a person with AIDS would surface as a thorny issue. Staff members of AIDS organizations and people with AIDS began contacting members of the celebration committee and gay community leaders.

A week ago the Lesbian and Gay Freedom Parade Steering Committee met to discuss the issue. At the meeting it was decided that there would be no change

(Continued on page 35)

Today

Reaching for the stars is Rev. Janie Spahr, of Marin's Ministry of Light. Steve Warren interviews her, page 32.

Mothertongue Readers' Theater is celebrating its tenth anniversary. Chiori Santiago has the details, page 62.

Greg Day will make a run for the city Board of Education, reports Charlie Linebarger, page 20.

Researchers debunk the Meese Commission pornography report for shoddy methods, says George Mendenhall, page 26.

Faeries and Witches gathered recently and Tom Bond was there, page 22.



Medical researchers have found a decrease in the rate of AIDS virus infection. (Photo: Rink)

AIDS Infection Drops Dramatically In San Francisco

Slow in Spread of Epidemic Shows Radical Changes in Sex Behavior

by Brian Jones

The spread of AIDS in San Francisco has "declined dramatically," according to a University of California at Berkeley study. Last year, three to five percent of gay men in San Francisco were newly infected with the AIDS virus. That compares to an infection rate of 18 percent a year before 1985.

Half the gay men in San Francisco, 51 percent, now are infected, according to the extensive UC study.

"This drop in the rate of AIDS transmission is directly linked to changes in sexual behavior," said epidemiologist Warren Winkelstein of the UC Berkeley School of Public Health.

(Continued on page 28)

LaRouche: New Rally Cry For Gay Movement

High Number of Valid Signatures Puts 'AIDS Control' Measure Before Voters

by George Mendenhall

It appears that the LaRouche Initiative calling for the quarantine of anyone believed to be carrying the AIDS virus will be on the California ballot this November. As of June 20, state officials were saying that the measure was all but certain to qualify for the ballot with over 75 percent of petition signatures being found valid.

"Almost all the counties are in," a secretary of state official told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "and the AIDS Control Initiative will evidently qualify to be on the November ballot." Chief Deputy Tony Miller said the signature count was completed in all but three of California's 58 counties—Los Angeles, Alameda, and San Diego. Gay activists, who have been organizing the campaign against the measure, are calling it the "LaRouche" initiative because the petitioning effort was launched by the followers of Lyndon LaRouche.

'What does LaRouche believe? . . . Walter Mondale is an agent of the Soviet KGB . . . Henry Kissinger "sleeps with little boys" . . . Jews founded the Ku Klux Klan . . .

Miller said he was surprised at the unusually high qualifying percentage—75 percent of the 690,000 signatures submitted. He explained, "That count is unusually high for a petition circulated on the streets. They only needed 66 percent of the signatures submitted to get on the ballot. Los Angeles has 200,00 signatures alone and unless they are totally fraudulent that would put them over the top." The initiative needed 393,000 signatures to qualify.

The "AIDS control" measure was written by Los Angeles area LaRouchians and would face court challenges if approved. It

encourages the quarantining of people with AIDS, requires a reporting of all who test positive to HTLV-3 antibody and those "suspected" of having AIDS, as well as bars people with AIDS from employment in food and drink businesses and in health services.

CAN VS. PANIC

There are two statewide groups opposed to the initiative. They are similar in nature to those that successfully defeated an initiative by former State Sen. John Briggs in 1978 that would have barred gay teachers. California CAN is

(Continued on page 35)

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Police Push Gets Kids Off Polk St.

So, Teens Hang Out Elsewhere Until Heat Cools Down on Polk

by Gregory Douthwaite

Homeless youth are fleeing the Polk Street area following a police crackdown on prostitution, drugs, and curfew violations in the neighborhood. Some are fleeing to other cities, such as Seattle and Los Angeles. Others are just keeping a lower profile, moving a few blocks away or hanging out in the Tenderloin, according to the staff of the Larkin Street Youth Center, which does outreach to Polk Street youth.

The crackdown began last March, after merchants complained that kids hanging out on the street were ruining store business. Seven extra SFPD officers have been patrolling the area on foot every night from 7 p.m. to 3 a.m.

Police have been reportedly telling youth to "move along," and are citing and arresting minors who violate the 11 p.m. curfew.

The main objective of the police action is to "herd the youth out of people's sight," according to Greg Day, who serves on the mayor's task force on youth.

Police say the crackdown has been a success. There are now fewer juveniles on Polk Street and merchants are pleased with the results, they say. Last week, they announced that the extra patrols would continue for another 60 days.

The decline in the numbers of street youth will last only as long as the increased police presence, said Day. "So long as the city is willing to spend millions to herd youth out of that area, they will go elsewhere," he said. "But just telling them where they can and can't stand doesn't solve the problem of homeless youth. It's a very temporary solution."

Day estimated that the summer patrols will cost the city \$100,000. "It's very expensive, and doesn't address the real problem," he said. "Where are they going to go? There's no place for them to go anyway.

Most of them don't have families they can return to."

Police have been "less than polite" in dealing with street youth, said Jed Emersen, director of Larkin Street Youth Center. But kids won't file harassment complaints because they are on the street illegally, he said.

Police have estimated that there are 1,000 to 2,000 homeless youth in San Francisco every day. Most are from California, and at least half are gay or bisexual, according to Day.

Youth workers say the city is avoiding its responsibility to homeless youth. "Our policy is, 'Take a bus somewhere else,'" said Johannes Troost, program director of Huckleberry House, a youth advocacy center. "Feinstein's stand is, 'Why pay for kids from other areas?'" he said.

The real problem is the lack of long-term shelter and employment for homeless youth, and that problem is not being addressed, youth advocates say. The state Department of Social Services should be providing foster home placement for these youth, they say.

Shelter is needed for at least one to six months to help kids get off the streets permanently, Troost said. Huckleberry House runs a shelter, but the maximum stay is three weeks. At the Diamond Street Youth Shelter, maximum stay is 10 days.

Police say most problems in Polk Gulch are not caused by youth but by young adults, 18 to



Police on Polk

(Photo: M. Hicks)

22 years old. They say they have made an increased number of arrests: 225 people in two months this spring. They arrested or cited 80 people for drunkenness, 20 for prostitution, and an undisclosed number for narcotics violations in the area.

According to police, the crackdown has resulted in a

reduction in crime. Rapes, robberies, serious assaults, and serious thefts have all declined in the area since last year. However, burglary and auto theft increased even with the added patrols.

The neighborhood is still a high-crime area, said police Captain Thomas O'Donnell, head of the SFPD's Northern Station.

"But we are getting a handle on it," he said. "Both the good guys and the bad guys know we're there."

Another problem facing homeless youth is the lack of a daytime activity center. The Larkin Street Youth Center, one block off Polk Street, burned down last month. The center hopes to be relocated in another building in a few weeks. In the meantime, teens have no place to go.

"This is not a good time to be making life difficult for these people," said San Francisco Sup. Harry Britt. "Police have generally not dealt with this problem very well."

Tickets for Cats

Cable Car Awards has a limited number of tickets still available for the July 11 benefit performance of the award winning musical *Cats* at the Golden Gate Theatre. Beneficiaries are Coming Home Hospice and Gay Games II.

Ticket prices are \$65 in the orchestra section and \$25 in the balcony. Orchestra and mezzanine ticket holders will receive an invitation to the Gala Jellicoe Ball and Cast Party at the Hyatt On Union Square after the performance.

Tickets may be purchased by phone using VISA or Mastercard by calling (415) 826-2999 from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. or by mailing a check or money order to Cable Car Awards, Inc., Post Office Box 1171, San Francisco, CA 94101.

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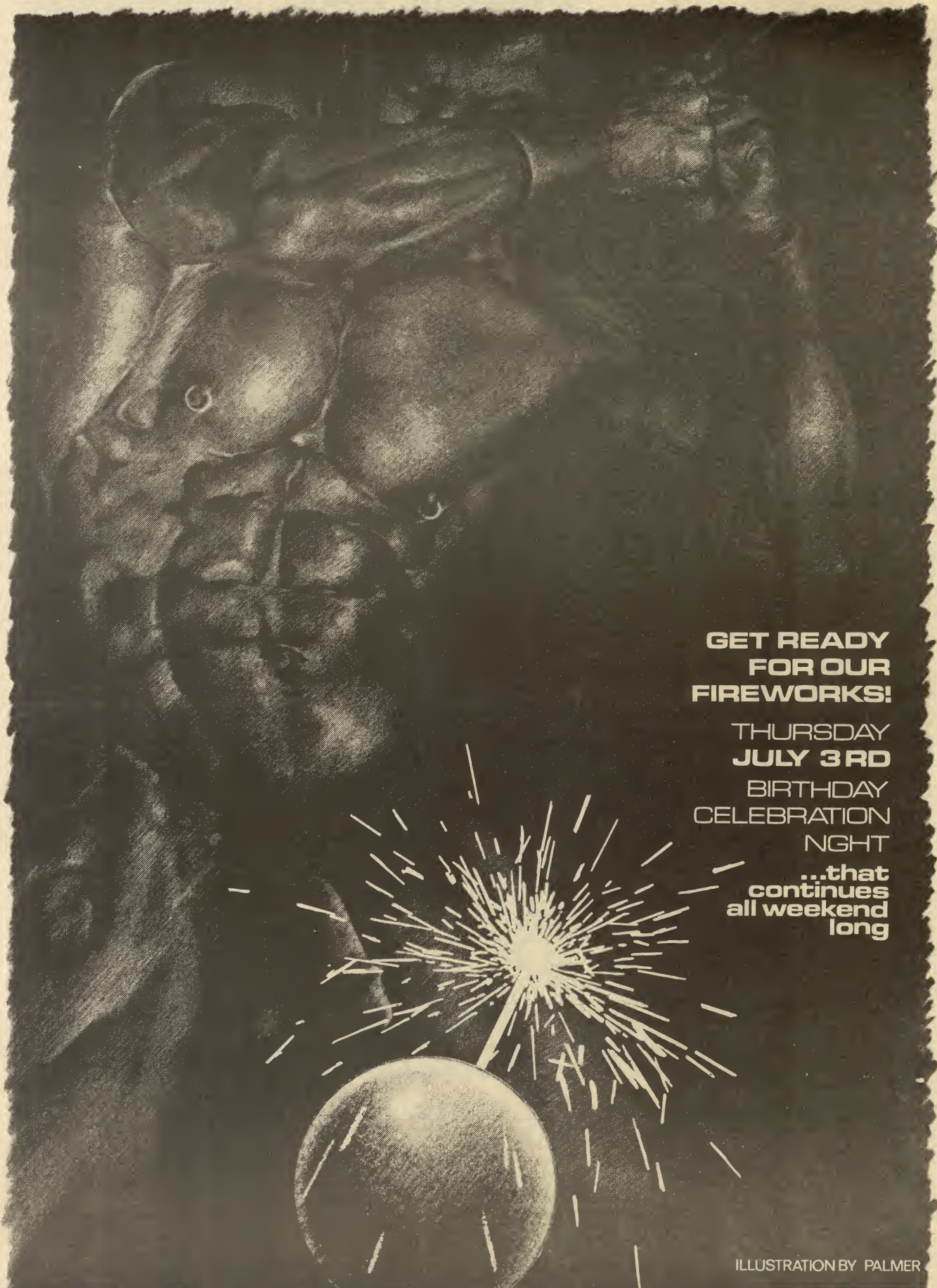
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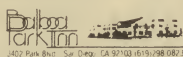


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Parade Time!

'Forward Together—No Turning Back' Is This Year's Theme

by Allen White

The 1986 Gay Freedom Day Parade, the largest event of its kind in the world, begins Sunday at 11 a.m. at the corner of Spear and Market Streets. The theme for this year's parade and celebration is "Forward Together—No Turning Back."

Rainbow flags are flying the length of Market Street. The gay freedom flags flying from homes, businesses, and worn by gay men and lesbians signal the diversity of the gay community and also the diversity of events planned for San Francisco's gay pride weekend.

Two major dance parties are scheduled at the Giftcenter Pavilion. Sunday afternoon is the annual Gay Day Tea Dance. For the third consecutive year, Sylvester will provide the entertainment. Tickets are \$12 in advance through BASS and \$28 at the door.

Saturday night at the Giftcenter is the third annual Puttin' On the Ritz dance party. The women only event starts at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$22 in advance through BASS and \$28 at the door.

Tonight "The AIDS Show: Artists Involved with Death and Survival" will have its television premiere on KQED, Channel 9, at 9:30 p.m. There will be two receptions and parties at KQED sponsored by Frameline. Call 431-9227 for information. Bonnie Hayes performs Thursday at the Baybrick Inn at 7 p.m. and Aldo Bell is at Buckley's Bistro at 9 p.m.

On Friday night, the Mr. Drummer Finals take place at Trocadero Transfer. Country and

Western dancing continues through the weekend at High Chapparral, 2140 Market Street, and the Rawhide II on 7th Street near Howard.

The annual gay music celebration starts at 8 p.m. at the First Congregational Church on Friday and Saturday nights. There will be performances by the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and each evening a different lineup of lesbian and gay musical groups will perform. Tickets range from \$7 through \$13 on sale at Headlines.

Tom Ammiano's "Wrists" continues at the Studio of Theatre Rhinoceros at 8. Call 861-5079 for reservations. Tickets are \$8. Larry Kramer's controversial AIDS play, *The Normal Heart* is at the Berkeley Repertory Theater Saturday at 8 and Sunday at 2 and 7. The ticket information number is 845-4700.

The Tenth San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival continues at the Roxie Cinema, 16th Street near Mission, and Video Free America,

442 Shotwell between 18th and 19th Streets, through Sunday. Call 431-9227 for information.

The Fourth Annual Gay Comedy Extravaganza begins at midnight, Saturday night at the Castro Theatre. Entertainers include Tom Ammiano, Suzy Berger, Laurie Bushman, Marga Gomez, Doug Holsclaw, Kelly Kittell, Linda Morales, Mario Mondelli, Monica Palacios, Romanovsky and Phillips, Karen Ripley, and Danny Williams. Tickets are \$6.

On Sunday Glide Memorial Church will present its annual Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day service at 9 a.m. The Episcopal gay group, Integrity, will conduct a Mass at Spear and Folsom at 10 a.m. The San Francisco Front-runners will have a pre-parade run from the Castro Theatre to the Embarcadero. Call 673-7303 for information. The Golden Gate Business Association will sponsor a brunch at the McAllister House. Tickets are \$12. Call 332-6000 for the required reservations.

At the Green Room in the Veteran's Memorial Building on Van Ness, the American Legion Alexander Hamilton Post 448 will present a party with no host bar starting at 1 p.m. No admission fee is required.

The Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., will hold its big Don't Bring Around a Cloud to Rain on Our Parade party at 2 p.m. Esta Noche, the city's premiere Latino bar at 3079 16th Street, opens at 3 p.m. with a special show and dancing. The Trocadero Transfer tea party starts at 5 p.m. at 520 4th St. The Living Sober Dance is at the Central YMCA at 220 Golden Gate at 4 p.m. The cost is \$6.

Colorado Solon Quashes His Bill For Quarantine

DENVER—This state's controversial attempt to quarantine AIDS victims or persons "reasonably believed" to have AIDS, appears to have fallen by the wayside. Ironically, the quarantine bill's author, State Rep. Dale Erickson, moved to kill HB-1290. Erickson said he quashed the measure because the Senate and the House of Representatives could not reach a compromise on two versions of the legislation.

Erickson said the bill was originally "an attempt to control and monitor those who had the HTLV-3 virus (sic) and an attempt through counseling to keep them from endangering the lives of others." Erickson's bill did not say that testing positive for HTLV-3 antibodies should not be construed as evidence of HTLV-3 infection.

Besides providing for counseling, HB-1290 would have permitted the incarceration for 72 hours of anyone merely suspected of having AIDS or HTLV-3 while the person's blood was tested for either condition. The bill also provided for the isolation or quarantining of any person with AIDS or HTLV-3 who "endangers the health of others."

Some amendments were added to the bill which Erickson did not like. Several due process clauses were added to allow some people a defense against arbitrary persecution under the bill.

—The New York Native



Sylvester will entertain again at the Giftcenter (Photo: Rink)

KQED Forum Called a Charade

Tiano Again Rebuffs Gay Pleas; Accused of Wasting Time In Meetings

by Charles Linebarger

Over 40 people gathered at KQED on June 19 for the long planned gay forum at which people from the community brought their grievances before the station's Community Advisory Panel. Unfortunately, only three of the 14 members of the station's panel were present. But KQED staff, from president Anthony Tiano, to TV director Nathan Katzman, radio manager Valena Williams, and radio programming director Carol Pierson, were present. The evening saw harsh words directed at KQED and a tough line taken by Tiano.

Roberto Esteves, president of the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club, began the evening's discussion by drawing attention to the homophobic attacks gay people are increasingly finding themselves subject to. "I think that with the increasing attacks, gays are feeling there is even more need for inclusion of gay people and gay programming at KQED and in *Focus Magazine*, especially because of the frustration that is being expressed to me at the exclusion of the gay sensibility at KQED."

Dealing with the AIDS epidemic is not the same thing as addressing the total concerns of the lesbian and gay community, said Holly Smith, media coordinator for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. "Programming AIDS documentaries is not going to meet the needs of gay people for role models," said Smith. "My concern is that often times we lump together programming on AIDS as an answer to gay needs and gay culture. But these are not the same thing."

One man, a member of Black and White Men Together, told the station staff that he is not a member of KQED because when he moved to the Bay Area he had expected something different from the public television he had seen in other cities. "KQED represents a city with a disproportionately large lesbian and gay community and yet KQED treats us as if we were no different from the almost invisible gay communities in other cities," he said.

"You exclude any sense of blacks or latinos being gay and drove me around the bend with the Fabian Bridges story. There was homophobia and racism in that program and I think it was unforgivable for KQED to broadcast it."

APPALLING

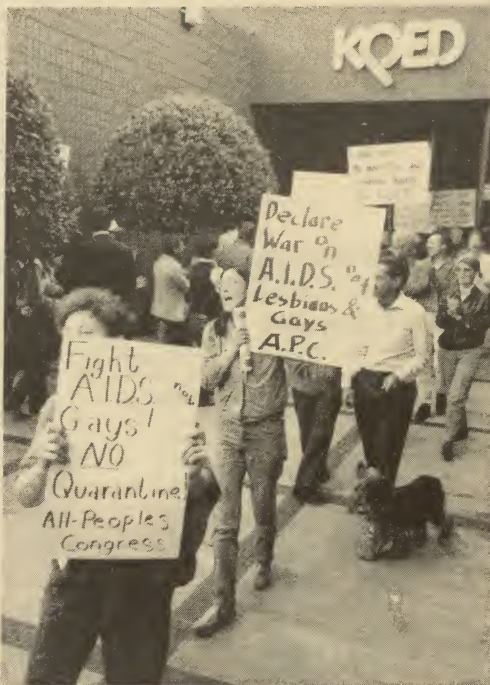
Tede Matthews, who appeared in the documentary *Word Is Out* ten years ago, said that the diversity within the gay community is not being represented on KQED. "The Fabian Bridges thing was just appalling. None of what you showed after it could make up for it. And with the *Christian Science Monitor* [radio], too. I believe it has to stop."

Gay activist Hank Wilson, former co-owner of the gay comedy club Valencia Rose, talked about the issue of ignoring gay comics. "We've heard about KQED airing programs that were produced in Boston but my question is what about programs that are produced here for Boston, like *Comedy Tonight*. We have at least 15 experienced gay and lesbian comics in this city. They are discriminated against by the straight clubs in this city. The producer of *Comedy Tonight* gets his comics by recommendations made by those same straight club

owners. It's a catch-22," said Wilson.

"I would love to see a few tokens thrown at us," he added. "When you have nothing it's good to get some tokens. And the *Christian Science Monitor* [radio] is an insult to us every time it is broadcast. If a community accepts this blatant discrimination against gay people, then something is wrong. Our community will no longer tolerate it."

Frank Eppich, representing



KQED: Not a hit with gays and lesbians (Photo: M. Hicks)

the Harvey Milk Democratic Club, told the station that 20 percent of the viewers in the city were gay or lesbian and that KQED was being short-sighted in paying so little attention to this community. "Part of what you see as a drop in subscriptions is not our doing, but because of a general feeling in the gay community that you are not being receptive to our community."

Donna Yutsi, of the Golden Gate Business Association, and Sue Libow, of the Lesbian Rights Project, both complained about the lack of lesbian programming on the station. "We're half of that 20 percent, or more," said Libow. "There are new families being made up of lesbian and gay couples, many with children. Where are we in your programming?"

INTO THE STREETS

Howard Wallace, a well-known activist in the community brought up the specter of future demonstrations at the station. "One of the reasons this community has come as far as we have," said Wallace, "is because we've gotten out into the streets, just like we demonstrated out in front of this building a few months ago. And we're going to have to demonstrate again if we're going to keep things moving."

(Continued on page 31)

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EDITORIAL & OPINION

Forward Together...

With this issue, the *Bay Area Reporter* celebrates 15 years of publication. We're also celebrating Gay Pride Week.

We are proud to still be here after so many years, and to be able to bring our community all the news and views week after week. This would not be possible without the cadre of writers and photographers who toil so diligently each week. It would also not be possible without a fine editorial and office staff. These are the unsung heroes of any publication.

There have been many changes in this newspaper over the years: from the very beginning when we published 5,000 copies every two weeks to today when more than 30,000 copies are published each and every week. As our community has grown so have we.

All of this would not have been possible without the backbone of any publication, our advertisers. They have been faithful to this paper because you, our readers, have been faithful to them. You shop in their stores, patronize their restaurants, and partake of their services. In a time when we are literally fighting for our lives many gay businesses are also struggling to stay alive.

It is important to keep gay business alive. Much of the money raised for our gay charities comes from these businesses. It has been sad to see so many bars, restaurants, and other fine businesses go under for lack of patronage. We realize many other factors are involved, but it still behooves us to support those who support us.

We are proud to be able to live in and support a city that cares. This city cares about its citizens and their myriad problems and tries to do the best it can for all. In the last 15 years we have seen incredible changes in the city's administration and its outlook towards the body politic. This has come about in large part because the gay community cares about its city. We have educated the population about its most important asset, the right to vote. It is pleasing to see that while voter apathy runs rampant in other communities, ours still turns out in strength to cast our ballots. That is due largely to the many political clubs both in the city and the greater Bay Area. Both Democrat and Republican, these clubs spend enormous amounts of time striving to educate the entire community on issues as well as candidates.

We are also a city with many fine gay men and lesbians in appointed and elected positions. All too often we have a tendency to overlook these

people. In this issue and throughout the month of July we will highlight these citizens. Their backgrounds are as diverse as their jobs. From the Police Commission through the smaller community boards, all help make our gay presence known and felt. It is through these positions that we help educate the straight community about our lifestyles and about the fact that we have the same concerns, cares, and desires as the mainstream. These commissioners have also helped to open many doors and have given the gay community entry into the world of the large fundraising organizations as well.

We are proud to see the love and caring our community has shown in the AIDS crisis. Early recognition of problems that were developing and the early mobilization of the community have helped forestall problems that are occurring in other gay communities. Massive education of the population at large has helped alleviate the bigotry and homophobia that is evident in other cities. The more dangerous sexual proclivities of the gay male have all but ceased to be. Within one year the venereal disease rate had dropped and the lifestyle of the community had changed. Clandestine sex is out, and courting is in. An incredible support system for people with AIDS was started and continues to this day.

We have shown the rest of the nation the way to go. While medical costs throughout the country have skyrocketed to more than \$150,000 for patient care, we give better, more humane services for about \$40,000 per patient. We have many people and organizations to thank for that. But, the main thanks should go to the thousands of men and women who volunteer incredible amounts of their time and energy. We have seen the community donate millions of dollars to help their own, and we have seen local government come up with millions more to help.

We are proud to have seen the community mobilize for survival. From Falwell, Briggs and Anita Bryant, we have fought back homophobic campaigns. We now have looming on the horizon the LaRouche quarantine initiative. There is no doubt in my mind that we shall overcome this latest assault on our community. It comes, however, when we are fighting for our very lives, and the money necessary to defeat it will have to come from sources that are already strained. We will all have to do with one less beer or one less pleasure to help in the fight. We beg of you to give "till it hurts" to help defeat this fascist-like initiative.

We are proud of our entire community. There is... no turning back! ●

Bob Ross

OPINION

Gay Games II: Our Collective Pride

by Shawn P. Kelly, Executive Director, Gay Games II

This Sunday at the Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade we will witness another of those events that defies belief, even to those of us who are accustomed to high visibility of gay people. At the sight of over 200,000 participants, we will witness the largest demonstration of gay pride ever assembled at one time on the planet.

As many times as I have been to the parade, I have always wanted to go to all the other parades across the country that are taking place at or about the same time as ours to see not only the Bay Area's bands, choruses, dancers, and performers, but those from other cities as well. Carried to its logical conclusion, what I have really wanted has been to see the whole gay world assembled together at one time.

If you have shared that dream, you will get your chance shortly at San Francisco's second gay pride event of the summer: Gay Games II, a 17-day festival from Aug. 1-17 that will feature the artists, athletes, and spectators not just from the greater Bay Area, but from across the country and around the world.

On the level of athletics alone Gay Games II will be a remarkable coming together of lesbians and gay men. With entries now closed, we have an estimated 3,600 individuals who will participate in our 17 different events. Although the final tabulations are still underway we already know that we have athletes representing cities not only in America but also from Australia, Italy, Canada, England, New Zealand, France, Ireland, Guam, the Netherlands, Mexico, Israel, Brazil, and Japan.

Think of it! In the Opening Ceremonies of Gay Games I in 1982 there were a total of 1,300 athletes. On Opening Day of Gay Games II on Aug. 9 there will be nearly three times as many women and men! Many of these people have been in serious training for years, have spent countless hours raising vast sums of money, and will have traveled thousands of miles to be a part of this international demonstration of gay pride.

Nor will that be the single aspect of the festival. For 17 days beginning Aug. 1, Gay Games II will present Festival of the Arts, a series of 22 cultural events that will take place throughout the city. The events

will range from a concert of the combined lesbian and gay Bay Area choruses, to a theater piece about 300 years of gay life in Japan, to a fabulous three-ring circus concert by over 400 members of the combined lesbian and gay bands of America (who will also preview their concert in the Games' Opening Ceremonies).

The bands especially, like their athletic counterparts, have been practicing, networking, and raising funds in anticipation of this worldwide convocation of their counterparts from throughout the country. And they will receive, for the first time, the international audience they deserve.

The most visible events of the festival—and the place where all of this comes together in its most dramatic form—will be the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of Gay Games II, on Saturday, Aug. 9 and Sunday, Aug. 17. Aside from being two of the most moving, entertaining, and spectacular afternoons you will ever be a part of, our ceremonies will be the most historic demonstration yet of our community pride.

And, perhaps, if any contrast could be made between the pride that we will all share at the parade and the pride that is evidenced by Gay Games II, it would be that the parade is the occasion for the most spectacular demonstration of individual pride. Come out and be who you are. Gay Games II will reflect the collective pride of our national and international gay communities through a display of our cultural and athletic development over the years.

For me, it is a dream come true: The gay world joining together to celebrate, to compete, to share—not just for one afternoon but for more than a week. We who have been working to make this festival come true, invite you to be a part by attending our Opening and Closing Ceremonies, athletic competitions, and cultural events, and by taking a visiting athlete into your home as a guest for the week—a special way to learn about the way other gay people live.

By doing any of these things, you will join your personal pride with ours to make the greatest statement to the world of the collective health, diversity, and pride of our community. In an age in which we are increasingly vulnerable, nothing could be more important. ●

Point and Counterpoint

★ The decision of the B.A.R. to deny endorsement to Assemblyman Art Agnos demands a repudiation from responsible community leaders.

Art Agnos is a fighter in the state legislature for our lives and the lives of those we love. He personally helped draft almost every state AIDS budget, and today his efforts mean California's AIDS funding is greater than all other states of the Union combined and doubled.

Agnos is also the author of AB 403, the AIDS antibody confidentiality law that has served as the model for the nation. At the very time the B.A.R. chooses to deny the endorsement, Agnos is leading the tough fight in the legislature to ban AIDS discrimination in our state.

All of this is in addition to his leadership in winning major increases in federal AIDS funding, and his ongoing efforts to secure basic civil rights for lesbians and gay men through AB 1.

The B.A.R.'s denial of an endorsement mocks the Agnos fight for the lesbian and gay community and trivializes our own fight for justice.

We are proud of Art Agnos' leadership and his partnership with our community on every crucial issue we face. We only wish there were more like him!

Roberto Esteves, President
Alice B Toklas Lesbian/Gay
Democratic Club
San Francisco

Rick Pacurar, President
Harvey Milk Lesbian & Gay
Democratic Club
San Francisco

PUBLISHER'S NOTE: It's interesting to note the protest does not include mention of Speaker Brown who was not endorsed as well. Mayhaps he has yet to strike a deal. Why not defend Bradley who was also not endorsed? Or maybe it's just because Mr. Pacurar's lover works for Assemblyman Agnos.

Some history notes: Harvey Milk and friends founded the San Francisco Democratic Club (now the Milk Club) to build up a cadre of precinct workers. This cadre was to help build the image and goodwill of Harvey Milk to defeat Art Agnos.

Four years ago the Milk Club did not endorse Willie Brown. You were not challenged, as that is your club's business. However, if it wasn't for Brown you wouldn't have any gay legislation. No matter what Mr. Agnos says, if the Speaker doesn't want it, Art ain't a gonna git it.

Lastly, B.A.R.'s endorsements (or non-endorsements) have never been sold via advertising and/or slate cards. If you can't stand the difference of opinion, then get out of politics, Mr. Pacurar.

Bob Ross, Publisher

Harping Carpies

★ Brian Jones' attitude was more than "nit picking" when he expressed his extravagant horror of the selection of Sharon McNight and Rita Rockett as co-marshalls of the Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade.

I know of no one more worthy of the honor than these two women who are leading us all in the expression of care, dedication, and love for the gay communities.

When Brian Jones and the rest of the harping carpies give as much of themselves as Sharon McNight and Rita Rockett, then perhaps I would bother to hear their complaints.

Richard Morris
San Francisco

False Statements

★ Upon reading Mr. Duke Armstrong's column in the June 5 issue of *Bay Area Reporter* titled "Tales of Another City," concerning the recent International Mr. Leather contest, held in Chicago over the Memorial Day weekend, I had to wonder whether or not I was a bartender at a bar that he seemed none too fond of.

As a bartender at the Chicago Redoubt I can say that Mr. Armstrong made some false statements concerning our establishment. For example, he claims that we did not give away or offer any drink specials over the weekend, when in fact each registration packet included three free drink tickets. Also, on Monday we offered a free buffet during which time the bar was open to the IML registrants several times as our way of saying thanks for a great weekend.

Mr. Armstrong correctly points out that the Redoubt is a large complex, spread out over two floors and by our sheer size attracted a larger crowd than

the other two bars mentioned in the article. I think it is unfair to imply that we did not care about our customers or our community. I am sure that our owner, Mr. Jim Flint, would like to have had the luxury of greeting customers as they arrived, but we were forced to put him to work behind the bar in order to keep up with the crowd. I might also point out that Mr. Flint's commitment to the community, the entire community including the leather community, is as strong as any other person's in this city, whether he is raising money for the Howard Brown Memorial Clinic, Chicago House, a residence for persons with AIDS, or being the first openly gay person to run for the Cook County Board of Commissioners, Mr. Flint has been in the forefront working hard for all our community.

I realize that San Francisco and Chicago are two very different cities but what seems to come through loud and clear in Mr. Armstrong's article is that anything that is not San Francisco, reduced in price, or free, is not worth experiencing.

Jerry Williams
Redoubt Bartender
Chicago

Waging War Against AIDS

★ As a recently diagnosed PWA, I was extremely interested in Pat Christen's "Understanding Immunity" column.

Unlike my physician, Christen was able to explain highly technical information in a manner that was wholly comprehensible to me. (In fact, I sent a copy of the article to my folks in Oregon to give them a better understanding of AIDS.)

I encourage the B.A.R. to continue providing a forum in which in-depth, factual, and relevant AIDS information is readily available.

Your columns like "Understanding AIDS" give me that knowledge I need to wage my own war against the disease.

Ned Gleane
Castro Valley

A New Uprising

★ That was a lovely "Mr. and Mrs." type picture of the bisexual chairs of our alleged Gay/Lesbian Freedom Day Parade, printed in with the "In My Opinion" of June 12. I would like to thank them for sharing their lecture on how bigoted we gays are and closed-minded for daring to oppose their ideas, especially the totally tasteless idea of putting two heterosexuals in the front of our parade.

Personally, I would have been just as offended by a straight of any color or gender in front of the parade (with gays added as a second thought). In these times of increasing homophobia and anti-gay violence (when's the last time you saw or heard of a gang of faggots jumping and beating on heterosexuals?), in these hard times our community desperately needs gay/lesbian heroes to look up to. We definitely do not need some chic chic bisexual beauty queens lecturing us on how narrow-minded we are.

In case anyone has forgotten: It is still illegal to engage in same-sex sex. Gays are locked up, beaten, mutilated, and still struggling on all levels to attain freedom from persecution. A heterosexual sexual freedom day would probably be a good idea but let's not forget the idea behind the uprising at the Stonewall was to free the gays. Considering all the rhetoric and bull coming out of the current parade committee here in San Francisco, maybe it is time for the gay people of San Francisco to have an uprising of our own... against the Parade Committee.

Alvin Anderson
San Francisco

Our Lesbian Friends

★ Time and again, I'm reminded how great it is to be a member of the San Francisco gay community. One of the so-called "truths" we've been led to believe is most lesbians and gay men rarely support each other. This has been shown to be a falsehood with the AIDS crisis. I have been very touched and impressed by the amount of support the lesbian community has shown to their gay brothers during this tragedy.

I hope that gay men will return that support. One thing we can do is send a check to the Lesbian Rights Project (1370 Mission St., 4th Floor, S.F. CA 94103). Let's not take each other for granted.

Again, my heartfelt thanks to my sisters.

Tom Yeager
San Francisco

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GAY MALE COUPLES RESEARCH PROJECT NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Gay couples are needed for a research project designed to help understand why some relationships work well and why others break up. If you and your partner have been living together for at least six months, you can help me in this project.

Your participation will provide valuable information that may aid other gay couples. Your participation in this study will be kept STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL. It will require both you and your partner to answer questions which take approximately 45 minutes to complete.

If you have questions, are interested or know of someone who may be interested, please call:

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(415) 563-6100

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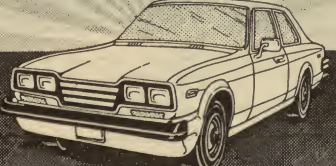
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LETTERS

Obituaries

★ Mike Hippler's recent article on "Scanning the Obituaries" missed an important point.

Writing an obituary for a lover or friend is not an easy task. It takes thought and courage and should not be judged on its literary content.

Realizing that Hippler's article was written to encourage those people who know of someone's transition (mostly through AIDS and/or ARC) to notify the community I feel his attitude regarding our freedom of expression was put on the witness stand.

Perhaps your newspaper should encourage all in our community to inform you regarding someone's death. This need not be by just a picture or expected literary masterpiece but in addition by name, date, and cause of death. Those unable to meet the current requirements of your newspaper's obituary column would also have the chance to inform the readers. A tribute or full statement regarding the transition could be published later if so desired. At least the community would be informed.

Shame on you, Hippler for asking us to punctuate and capitalize in the face of death.

Ceal Goldberg
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: As we mentioned recently, we encourage obituary writers to keep the obits down to moderate lengths, such as four to five paragraphs. But, other than basic newspaper style, we don't want to hamper what is coming from the heart.

This is where we feel our obits differ from the dailies. As Mike Hippler pointed out, you see a lot of touching things about the deceased in our obits. That's because it's coming from the heart. We don't feel it is our place to lecture the bereaved at this time about details the straight press considers more important . . . e.g., was it 7 a.m. or 7 p.m.?

Will Snyder

Yes, You Are A Prude

★ I would like to respond to the "Too Much of a Good Thing" from last week's B.A.R. Yes, I would call you a prude. At least the man didn't jerk off on the street. The woman who was topless—most real gay men wouldn't give two hoots in Hell to see that.

You think you were the only one to see that. Didn't you look around to see if anybody else saw it, or were you too busy looking yourself?

As far as your friend in that park, he must like Hats, too.

I am from Oklahoma, the most prudish place on this Earth. I spent one year here, and now I am back to stay. You wanted a place with no hassles, where people could be free. Well, I would say you found it. You don't like it? Go home. Just for the record, where did you stay these last eight months, in the closet?

Yes, the Gay Freedom Day is coming and I will stand tall with my brothers and sisters, and be proud to be gay, to be able to live and work in the gay community, as I do. And be proud to be able to live in S.F. The gay community is not perfect nor am I . . . and certainly not you.

Don't judge the gay community or even San Francisco itself by three incidents.

This is a big city.

Mike Atkins
San Francisco

B.A.R. Is Flexible

★ I read your publication for a variety of reasons and was most happily surprised to know you are truly open to all thoughts in print.

I don't feel I'm alone in expressing my gratitude to B.A.R. for its flexibility in journalism.

Paul F. Malies
San Francisco

Inappropriate

★ This letter was sent to:

Chief Frank Jordan
San Francisco Police Department

Dear Chief Jordan:

I have been receiving an increasing number of complaints lately about inappropriate harassment of citizens in and about Buena Vista Park.

Numerous calls and letters have come into my office about police officers detaining and interrogating strolling folks—processing ID, running warrant checks, compiling data about employment and other personal matters.

One of your officers is reported to have told a citizen he was in a "suspicious area"—a fairly remarkable statement.

I find this type of police behavior to be contrary to the best interest of the free society in which we all live. It would seem that potential lawsuits against the city might be avoided, and that better police-community relations might be developed if police officers would concentrate on more appropriate work.

Your participation in correcting this situation will be appreciated. Please keep me updated on your findings, and on corrective actions which are taken.

Harry Britt
Member, Board of Supervisors
San Francisco

Betancourt Is Wrong!

★ Andrew Betancourt's elitist posturing and criticism regarding B.A.R.'s letters section (June 19), might have had some credibility had he not been so judgemental about how to categorize the letters sent to the paper. He would do well to realize that the letters column is a forum open to everyone (including Betancourt) in the lesbian and gay communities, as well as the heterosexual community.

Betancourt's petty nitpicking and remarks about "cranky bitches" (his words) referring to letters he doesn't like, is an insult to B.A.R. readers and letter writers who find Open Forum as the only outlet to express their diverse views. Moreover, his suggestions smack of egotism and elitist censorship. Perhaps Betancourt should start his own newspaper, write his own letters, and maybe he'll be happy.

The B.A.R.'s letters section has to be the most responsive to its readers in the city and elsewhere when compared to the *Ex-Somninx* and the *Comical*. My batting average with letters to the two aforementioned local dailies is lousy with only one letter printed out of six letters sent to the *Ex-Somninx* and none printed at all in the *Comical*. These two papers never return my phone calls. They are about as responsive as a dead mouse. *The Progress* runs second to B.A.R. for this paper (*The Progress*) prints virtually all of my letters.

I am sure many B.A.R. readers will agree with me when I say that B.A.R.'s letters section is the most lively and truly a class act. Also, the most responsive of all. We should all support B.A.R. and protect it from discontented individuals like Betancourt. So to him I say: Please shut up and go away.

Ed Dollack
San Francisco

Just The Facts, Ma'am

★ Ye gads!

One incriminating belt buckle makes for a multitude of speculation. Mr. Wahl's irrational antagonism towards all things Christian is showing through again [B.A.R., June 5].

Surely if Officer Crowley is botching the job it's because he's a bad cop, not (allegedly) a Cop for Christ. If, as the implication goes, Crowley's religion is affecting his professionalism, it's his professionalism which is at fault.

One might do well to stick to the facts at hand and do the job one is asked to do, and leave his own prejudices and hasty conclusions at home.

Mona Semerau
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: After B.A.R.'s deadline for the June 5 issue passed, Inspector Herman Clark, who is working on the George Williams case with Inspector Crowley, said it is well known that Mr. Crowley is a member of Cops for Christ. Inspector Crowley has not returned B.A.R.'s phone calls as of yet.

Will Snyder

Caring Will Prevail

★ We'd like to take this opportunity to thank the thousands of San Franciscans who demonstrated their support for people with AIDS/ARC at the Candlelight Memorial March.

In the light of the LaRouche Internment Initiative, now, more than ever, it is important to realize that San Franciscans—along with Chicagoans, New Yorkers, Londoners, etc.—are responding to the AIDS crisis with the "old fashioned" value of compassion and rejecting the strange and new doctrine that kicks people when they're down.

The LaRouches, William Dannemeyers and Bill Buckleys of this land will not prevail. Common sense, concerted action and caring will.

Frank Richter, Co-Chair
Mobilization Against AIDS-SF
San Francisco

Hey, Gay Bigots: Shut Up!

★ I address this letter to those who oppose nongays being a part of the Gay Pride Parade and Festival.

Do you know what turns my stomach more than a bigot? A gay bigot! How dare you assume that every heterosexual is somehow prejudiced! Do you believe that gays, who comprise 6-10 percent of the population could have made it on their own without the help of our nongay friends?

If you do, you're more ignorant and naive than Jerry Falwell (and that's about as ignorant as one can get). In 25 years of being out of the closet (most of the time), I've only had one rejection by a nongay friend (who is no longer a friend, of course). I feel so grateful and proud that the Gay Pride Committee has the brains to know how important it is to show our nongay support because without them, we would be doomed for sure.

My nongay friends are beautiful people. They don't just tolerate me, they accept me without reservation and they treat me equally in every respect, which is what every gay person wants. I've had more rejection from some fellow gays than I ever had from straights!

For those of you who relate to the Falwellian frame of mind, may you get your just reward. But for those of you who realize that heterosexuals have done more for us than anyone (e.g., Elizabeth Taylor, Joan Rivers, Barbra Streisand, etc.), then bless you for acknowledging their tremendous support and caring.

And for you gay bigots out there, do me a favor: shut up!

Dean Tomich
San Jose

No Fundamentalists Allowed

★ San Diego recently held their Gay Freedom Day Celebration. As is all too frequent with such celebrations around the country, the fundamentalists show up with offensive banners, bullhorns, posters, etc. A gay man physically attacks them (which is wrong). Do the fundamentalists get arrested for inciting violence, parading without a permit? No—of course the gay man gets arrested for assault and winds up getting his blood drawn to test him for AIDS (an incredible outrageous blatant violation of his civil rights).

As San Francisco is about to hold its Gay Freedom Day Parade, it is time somebody asks what are we going to do about fundamentalists? They show up every year at our parade which is a celebration for ourselves and our friends. We are supposed to have a good time, have pride instilled in us, and feel better as a result of the parade. Each year we are urged to ignore the fundamentalists. For many of us this is difficult to do. We must admit that we are upset by their ungracious vulgarity and narrowmindedness. Not to mention the fact that they are uninvited (as far as I am concerned). The gay community has the parade permit for that day (they do not).

When the fundamentalists show up on Gay Freedom Day, they should be allowed their freedom of speech but not at our expense. They should be segregated and kept separate from the celebrants. They should be kept outside the parade area. If they move into the parade area they should be asked to leave, and if they refuse, they should be arrested under the same technical legal laws that the police have used against gay people for years.

George Collins
San Francisco

We Have Almost Arrived

★ We found the recent article by Brian Jones to be among the most—if not the most—repressive and repulsive articles appearing in the *B.A.R.* since the first day your paper began publication.

How any person of reasonable intelligence can feel that the gay community has progressed backwards as a result of the appointment of straight grand marshals for the Gay Pride celebration parade is hard to fathom. Isn't the crux of gay rights the lessening of bigotry and the doing away with the importance of sexual orientation?

All people, straight or not straight, should appreciate anyone and everyone's contributions toward the eradication of this horrible epidemic we are in. In the cases of Rita Rockett and Sharon McKnight, we are not talking about mere lip service, or occasional monetary contributions, or appearances at fundraising events. We are talking about two people who have given nearly all of their spare time—and much time that was not spare time—to a community in need.

We appreciate Brian Jones' fine talent as a writer, and the time which he, too, has given for the "cause," but he certainly has not been the one spending every other Saturday of his life for the past two-plus years in a kitchen, or every Saturday night cocktailing in a bar to raise tips to be spent on food, or every other Sunday afternoon spreading joy to those at Ward 5A(B) or cancelling paid engagements to sing and entertain for zilch. Nor have we seen him

serving at as many countless endeavors to raise funds, or in the various hospitals, in so many hospital rooms, at people's homes . . . or even on the streets . . . spreading love and hope during this time of crisis. And, needless to say, most of the rest of us have not been so committed.

What pride and celebration the majority of us shall feel in our hearts when we see two most deserving people—Sharon and Rita—leading the parade on June 29, knowing that they are giving us more reason to celebrate and certainly a newly-acquired pride. Sexual orientation truly does not matter. We have almost arrived!

Bryce Fleming and
Larry Christian
San Francisco

Support Cranston

★ I feel particularly qualified to comment on the dispute between Chris Bowman and Wayne Friday since I'm no fan of Bowman's politics and Wayne Friday and I have had our heated differences. Now that I have established my objectivity and disinterestedness in this affair, I'd like to make a few personal observations.

It's my strong opinion that gays put Deukmejian in office by staying away from the polls. Bradley was a lackluster candidate, and there was little gay enthusiasm for him. This time around we had better hope our gay Republican friends get more influence with Deukmejian because he's going to win by a landslide.

Where the gay voters can and should make a difference this fall will be in the tight Cranston-Zschau U.S. Senate race. Zschau seems to be a decent enough man and a moderate, but Cranston is a proven friend of gays, and is that rare breed in American politics . . . the statesman. Cranston deserves another term, and the gay vote should be solidly behind him.

I would like to add, that despite our differences, Wayne Friday and I share, with reservations, the same political philosophy, and that I agree with Chris Bowman that gays, particularly during these grave times, should work to gain acceptance with the mainstream of American society, and not continue to be the bastard child of the liberal Democrats.

Tom Youngblood
San Francisco

Housing Benefits

★ I saw a letter in the *B.A.R.* about the horrible shortage of low cost housing for people with AIDS in San Mateo County (and everywhere else for that matter). I hope that anyone with AIDS who falls in to the low/moderate income bracket because of their illness knows that they are eligible for the same housing benefits that many families receive (especially if they are already getting SSI).

The Section 8 Rental Assistance Program is implemented by the County or City Housing Authority in your area; if all the numbers work out you can stay in the same apartment you live in and pay about 30 percent of your monthly income for rent, or if you have a lot of medical-related expenses you might just be able to let the Dept. of Housing & Urban Development pay all of your rent for you. Of course, a lot of people in the Bay Area are on the waiting list for free rent, but in Oakland there may be a shortcut: anyone receiving any kind of disability payment like SSI is eligible for the Aftercare Program. It's the same as Section 8 but the waiting list can be as short as zero to three weeks long (instead of one to three years).

Anyone interested in details for themselves or a friend may contact me at The Oakland Housing Authority at 874-1506.

James Wilson
Representative/Leased Housing
Oakland

Women Who Care

★ During the last few weeks I have given a lot of thought to the battle against AIDS and its dreadful effect on our society. It strikes me that there is one particular group involved in the battle that is, if not unappreciated, not recognized enough. The group that I am talking about is the women, both lesbian and heterosexual, who are doing so much to help.

Now, I can hear the cries of outrage from some readers that AIDS is not a gay man's disease and that everyone has a moral obligation to help in the effort. I agree but the truth of the matter is that these women could, if they so chose, simply shrug the whole epidemic off as something that does not really concern them.

Anyhow, I want to take this opportunity to say to all those women involved that we are truly grateful for your support, help, and love that you have been so generous with. Your example is an inspiration to us and gives us faith that we will win this fight in the end.

P. Warwick May
Oakland

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To the 20,000 people who pledged to riders in the '86 AIDS Bike-A-Thon.

THANK YOU!

To the 650 riders who solicited pledges, collected pledges and rode the 'magically flat' 25 mile route and the 100 mile challenge.

THANK YOU!

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ATTENTION BIKE-A-THON RIDERS & FRIENDS

Join the AIDS Bike-A-Thon and Different Spokes contingent in the 1986 Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade, Sunday, June 29. Please call (415) 771-0677 for meeting time and location.

DEPARTMENTS

The Williams Case

★ This letter was sent to Police Chief Frank Jordan:

As you must know, a great many San Franciscans distrust those officers in your Department who belong to organizations that condemn the lifestyles of gay, lesbian and bisexual citizens. That mistrust has just been deepened by the conduct of Inspector James Crowley of your Homicide Bureau in investigating the May 22 murder of George Williams, a gay man.

Douglas Comstock, a neighbor of the victim, came face to face with a man whom he believes to be the murderer, on the day of the murder. Although he reported this to Inspector Crowley and his partner, on May 25, the day after the body was found, they neither had him review mug shots, nor used his assistance in making a composite drawing of the man Comstock saw until June 6, 12 days later. Comstock also had information that the person he saw frequented the streets around City Hall. He was told by Crowley's partner not to go to that area to look for that person, but no attempt was made to have Comstock go with a police officer to look for the person (which presumably would not have endangered Comstock). Crowley and his partner were apparently not interested in getting a picture of the victim—which could be useful in locating people who saw the victim with the murderer. Comstock had to suggest bringing the officers a picture, when he saw them on June 6.

At the time of Comstock's interview, Inspector Crowley was wearing a belt buckle with the words: "Jesus Is Lord." We are informed that Inspector Crowley has been a long-time member of the "Cops for Christ," which is an organization that condemns the gay lifestyle and professes obedience to a "higher law," higher than the laws of civil society.

This investigation appears to lack motivation, to say the least. By now the person Comstock saw may have left the area. Why has there not been an adequate investigation of this suspect? Is it because the victim was gay, and Inspector Crowley (and the other "Cops for Christ" members in your Department) disapprove of gay men? If so, then your Department needs a thorough housecleaning. We want an explanation, and we think all of the citizens of San Francisco deserve one, now.

(Although we write as officers of the Stonewall Gay Democratic Club, we do not want anyone to think that our letter is anti-Christian, in any sense. One of us happens to be the Chair of the Social Justice Commission of the San Francisco Council of Churches, and neither of us opposes real Christian work—such as investigating and stopping violent crimes, no matter who the victims are.)

Alex MacDonald
Administrative Vice President
Stonewall Democratic Club

John E. Wahl
Political Vice President
Stonewall Democratic Club
San Francisco

Goodbye Freedom

★ The Buena Vista park harassment of gays is just one more nail in our collective coffin. Why we put up with it is beyond me. At the baths a lot more than sex was going on. The baths were a gathering place where gay men were completely free to be themselves and meet other gay men—to share information, to lend support to one another.

I had as many, if not more, purely social contacts at the baths as sexual encounters. Sex was just one possibility. I also went there to get away from straights—for privacy, if you will. I have never really come to grips with the gay community's refusal to gather in great numbers to protest the taking of our right to have places to gather and be with one another free of harassment, even in a bathhouse. Our behavior need only be monitored by ourselves.

Why do we allow them to continue limiting our freedoms? I tell you, Harvey Milk turns in his grave. Where is our leadership? Why aren't we massing in the park, making a clear statement that we are the tax-paying public. We help pay for that park. We have a right to use it without being harassed.

I go into the park often without sex on my mind. There are other reasons to be there. Policemen only go to the park with sex on their minds. Whose behavior needs monitoring?

I think it is time again to stand up for our rights. Let's all think of a non-sexual reason for going to the park on the same day and send a clear message to City Hall and the Board of Supervisors that the harassment has to stop—enough votes says it has to stop.

Two years ago, it was the baths. Today it's the park. Don't fool yourselves that the bars, gyms, and eventually your own homes are that far from Buena Vista park. They won't stop with the park. They won't stop until they eliminate all places where we can come into contact easily with one another.

Think about it—anywhere gay men can meet, there is a possibility of sex. To eliminate that possibility, they will have to close all places where you can be openly and comfortably gay. All your interactions with other men will have to become covert. When the cops are crawling around in the underbrush and searching us out in the darkest alleys, where do you go to get away from their obsession?

Back into your closets, that's where. Remember "out of the bars and into the streets"? Well, we're there again boys. Only this time, it's into the park. Quick, they're taking more of your freedom!

John Douglas
San Francisco

Remembering Uyvari

★ Uyvari's recent passing conjures for me feelings of both joy and sadness. When I purchased a T-shirt bearing his art through a mail order house in San Francisco (I was then living in Norfolk, VA), it was pride which effaced me on publicly wearing his product. His art left indelible impressions on many Virginians. His spiritual talent in conveying eager masculinity in print will be greatly missed. Uyvari will be remembered always in the highest place.

Michael S. Graham
San Francisco

Socialists Are Better

★ John Laird, in his guest column in the June 5 B.A.R., claims that gays and lesbians should affiliate to the Democratic Party because of its "general goals of human rights at home and abroad."

History, however, tells a different story.

When the Black struggle for equal rights took to the streets of the South in the 1950s, it was the Democratic Party that unleashed police and Klan terror in defense of Jim Crow. When that tactic failed, the Kennedy and Johnson Administrations used the FBI to infiltrate and disrupt the movement from within.

It was successive Democratic administrations that attempted to deny the Vietnamese people the right to self-determination through a bloody war of aggression which killed hundreds of thousands, Vietnamese and Americans alike.

And when women took up the cause of the Equal Rights Amendment in the 1970s, it was largely thanks to a campaign of false promises and betrayals by Democratic Party "friends" of women's rights that the amendment failed to gain ratification in three-fourths of the state legislatures.

This abysmal record extends to the gay and lesbian liberation struggle as well. Few will forget the Miami ordinance defeat in 1977, when the indifference and hostility of Democratic politicians from President Carter to Florida Governor Askew to the Dade County Council helped pave the way for Anita Bryant's notorious "Save Our Children" campaign.

Today more than ever, the ruling Democratic and Republican parties are proving themselves to be enemies of democratic rights and social progress. We see this in the bipartisan policies of escalating intervention in Central America, a \$300+ billion war budget, cuts in programs that benefit working people and the oppressed, and the undermining of affirmative action, abortion rights, constitutional protections and the rights of immigrants fleeing terror and oppression in Latin America.

We also see it in the anti-gay hysteria launched in the wake of the AIDS Epidemic. The silence and hostility of the Democratic and Republican parties have given the green light to anti-gay fanatics like Lyndon LaRouche, whose ballot initiative in California calls for concentration camps for AIDS sufferers and witchhunts against gay and lesbian workers.

That's why I support Matilde Zimmermann and Greg Jackson, the Socialist Workers Party candidates for governor and lieutenant governor. On May 26, Zimmermann joined with thousands of gays and lesbians at the third annual AIDS vigil to express her solidarity and support to those suffering from AIDS, and has called on the labor movement, civil rights organizations and church and community groups to unite to fight the LaRouche initiative. The Socialist campaign demands full funding for AIDS research and outpatient care, with the money to come from the war budget. It also calls for no aid to the contras and no U.S. intervention in Nicaragua, an end to complicity with South African apartheid, solidarity with the striking meatpackers at Hormel and the TWA flight attendants, women's right to abortion, the closing of all nuclear power plants and no deportations of undocumented workers.

Unlike their Democratic and Republican opponents, the Socialists place the struggle for democratic rights and social justice first. It's a campaign all gay and lesbian fighters should work for and support. If you agree, contact the Socialist headquarters at 282-6255 or visit the bookstore, 3284 23rd Street, San Francisco.

Peter Anastos
San Francisco

Wayne Friday

Supes to Go On Record Opposing Larouche Prop.

As expected, it was announced in Sacramento this week that political supporters of right-wing political extremist Lyndon LaRouche had collected and qualified more than enough signatures to place on the November ballot an initiative that, if passed by California voters, could lead to forced AIDS testing of hundreds of thousands of gay and non-gay citizens.

The so-called 'LaRouche Initiative' is designed to ban people infected with the AIDS virus from working as teachers, food handlers, administrators, or from even attending classes in the state's schools. The proposed LaRouche plan would require registration of all Californians infected with the AIDS virus and would give public health officials the power to force AIDS testing on anyone even suspected of carrying the virus.

The November initiative marks the first time since the 1978 Briggs Initiative that a gay-related issue will be decided at the ballot box, and gay groups and their supporters across the state were organizing this week to defeat the plan.

At City Hall, the Human Services Committee of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors holds a hearing at 2 p.m. today (Thursday, June 26) to consider a resolution sponsored by Supervisors John Molinari and Harry Britt that would officially put the city on record as opposing the LaRouche Initiative.

Eleanor Smeal, president of the National Organization of Women (NOW) has called the campaign to oust California Chief Justice Rose Bird a "sexist" campaign led by people "who do not want a woman in a leadership position." Smeal, in Los Angeles recently, charged that "there are some who want her [Bird] out because she's a woman and she's had the audacity to lead." She said that the campaign to retain Bird is "crucial for women" because she is the only female chief justice in the country.

Smeal told reporters that Bird "has been treated in a sexist manner." She said that Justice Bird's predecessor ruled against the death penalty many more times than she has, and added that "we believe her record on the court is commendable." Smeal said that California voters must support Bird because it is of utmost urgency that "we have more women in elected office."

When asked why NOW refused to support Rep. Bobbi Fiedler in her recent quest for the Senate nomination—despite her support for free choice on abortion—Smeal replied that "she's not our kind of can-

didate." (Translated, of course, that means: She's a Republican.)

In L.A. this week, incidentally, it was announced that a new statewide group calling themselves the Independent Citizens Committee to Keep Politics Out of the Court, has been formed to support Bird and her associates (including the two who were appointed by Gov. Deukmejian) in the November election. The group will be headed by former Gov. Edmund "Pat" Brown and hopes to raise \$1 million for a statewide television campaign on behalf of the incumbent justices.

Insiders on the Democratic County Central Committee tell me they expect lesbian activist Carole Migden to be elected the new chair of the body next month (incumbent chairperson Linda Post is not seeking re-election).

Around Washington it is no secret that Chief Justice Warren Burger was nudged ever-so-lightly into his retirement because some GOP leaders are fearful that the Senate, which must okay his successor, could go Democratic in November.

The Papan-Kopp state Senate race in the 8th district is heating up early with both sides issuing a barrage of press releases attacking each other on Papan's checkbook campaign supporters and Kopp's 1972 vote on the Coastal Commission (and who says these two aren't reaching for issues?)

My Sacramento spies tell me that five of six Democratic Assembly candidates backed in the primary by Speaker Willie Brown were in the capital a couple of weeks ago to "pay their respects" to the powerful Speaker. Notably absent was Jackie Speier, the lone non-Brown supported Democrat who won in the 19th district, beating Daly City Councilman Mike Nevin. Brown did, however, call Speier within two days of her win to offer congratulations and an olive branch.

Attorney Arlo Smith, Jr., is lining up early important support in his race for a seat on the BART board.

No one will talk about it, but you can look for Jack Davis to be leaving Quentin Kopp's state Senate campaign within weeks. Davis ran the successful Sacramento County sheriff's campaign as well as the Prop. F effort on June 3.

My quote of the week: former ballet dancer Ron Reagan, Jr., speaking of his parents' reactions to rumors of his homosexuality said, "He and Mom have friends who are gay. I mean, they are show people. They were in show business. They've always liked dance."



Sup. John Molinari

(Photo: Rink)

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It's a Kick in the Grass

It is a phenomenally gorgeous Saturday morning in June, the first morning free of fog in weeks. At the polo fields in Golden Gate Park, several dozen rugby teams showing lots of grit, determination, and skin are crawling all over each other in piles, but it is not rugby players in whom I am interested—at least not this morning. I am seeking soccer players of a particular persuasion, and I think I see them at one end of the field. But not one glance at me with that unmistakable glimmer of recognition, and there are no other soccer players in sight. I am beginning to think I have confused meeting time and/or place once again, or that I am losing the ability to spot a fellow faggot a mile away, but then I overhear a new arrival onto the field say to his companion, "Gee, some of these rugby players are really cute." I smile and follow them to the far end of the field, where four, then five, and soon 14 other members of their team arrive—the official San Francisco soccer team of the 1986 Gay Games.

While the others warm up, 21-year-old Josh Persky (who, along with teammate Mark Koval, usually runs practice for this officially leaderless and self-described "anarchic" group of people) talks a little about the history of the group. The team came together in the spring of 1982 for the first Gay Games, Josh explains, only to find that the competition at the games consisted of only one other team, a group of spirited but hopelessly overmatched players from Denver. San Francisco won the brief series, held in Kezar Stadium in September, 9-0, 8-0, and 3-2 (this last only after members of the two teams switched sides).

After walking away with the gold, the team disbanded, but nine of the original players joined forces to form the nucleus of the 1986 team a year and a half ago. By no means an exclusive organization, the nine welcomed anyone who wanted to play to join them, regardless of age, race, gender, nationality, religion (or lack thereof), sexual persuasion (ditto), or level of experience. Eventually the group grew to 18, including people from every kind of

category described above (even one straight man)—except for women. "If a woman wanted to join, she'd be welcome," explains Josh, "but they have a separate team, so most women would rather play with them."

About half the players, Josh estimates, played on high school teams once upon a time. Josh himself plays for San Francisco State at present. Some are quite good, including the Mexicans (some of whom are not here this morning due to the World Cup matches on TV) and other immigrants who grew up with the sport. Others had no experience at all until they began attending the twice-weekly practices at the polo fields. "If they have no experience, they come out and learn," says Josh. "The experienced players teach the less-experienced ones. That's what this is all about."

Indeed, in line with the official philosophy of the Gay Games, the emphasis of the soccer players is on participation, not competition. "The most important thing is the spirit," claims Josh, "and we've got that. Nevertheless, competition is a part of athletics, and it's inevitable that you become competitive at some level, either with yourself, another player, or another team. We still want to win. We still want the gold. But that doesn't mean that we'll forget what this is all about."

What this is all about is not just participation and enjoyment, of course, but gay pride and self-respect. "The main reason I joined the team is because I love soccer," notes Josh. "But another reason is that I enjoy spending time in the company of other gay men. I can be myself here. There is no fear of being condemned because of my sexuality, no need to prove my masculinity. This is a comfortable environment for me."

The sense of camaraderie that develops in this environment is something else that is important to Josh. "Whether we win or lose, it's a team effort," he notes, "and that's a far more satisfying feeling than doing something on an individual basis." Fortunately, that camaraderie lasts long after the season is over. Some of Josh's

best friends are fellow teammates from the 1982 team; his roommate is also a former teammate.

Looking ahead to the 1986 Games, Josh is pleased that this year four other teams instead of one will be competing—New York, Seattle, Phoenix, and Denver. The series will be held not at Kezar Stadium but at the brand-new fields behind St. Ignatius High School at 39th and Quintara, and the first game is scheduled for Aug. 12. Naturally, Josh is hoping attendance at the games will improve over the dismal showing at the 1982 soccer matches. It matters to him "because I want to know that the community supports us. Maybe we're not showing as much flesh as the bodybuilders, but still we should be supported." Josh, a bodybuilder himself who is employed at a local gay gym, believes soccer isn't as popular a game as it might be because "the average gay man in San Francisco didn't grow up with the sport. He doesn't know the rules and hasn't developed an appreciation for it."

Actually, Josh hopes the community will support all the athletes of the Gay Games, not just the soccer players, for reasons he sees as vital. "We're all going through a hell of a lot right now with AIDS, and it's real easy to get caught up with negativity. Lots of us are depressed. But the games are a good way to focus on the positive again. They can give us a great feeling and prove that we're still surviving as a community, that we're still enjoying each other's company. Personally, I lost my best friend to AIDS this year—Earl Belk, the head medic for the last games—but even though I don't have him to share this with me this time, I'm still going to focus on who and what I do have for as long as I have it. The games is part of all that."

By this time the other players are getting restless, and Josh gets up to lead them in a few drills. The interview is complete, but I do not leave until I get a chance to see for myself what the Games are all about, according to Josh and friends. "Can you join us?" asks Mark Koval. "We need a human obstacle for this drill." I agree, thinking that at least I am



It takes balls to play soccer

(Photo: Rink)

capable of that, and reflecting that with any luck at all perhaps I'll be tackled in the process, perhaps by the skinny young man with the curly hair in the white shorts.

However, this does not happen, and when the drills are over, Mark and Josh suggest I play with the team. Again I agree, although I have not kicked a soccer ball in well over ten years. I am assigned to play fullback (which is somewhat analogous to an outfielder in baseball, or as far away from the action as you can get, as long as your team is on the move). Kicking at a gopher hole instead of a soccer ball, I feel somewhat like one of the inept celebrity players on \$10,000 Pyramid, the one who always puts his teammates at a disadvantage because he plays so poorly. But my teammates in this case don't seem to care, so neither do I.

In fact, for the first 15 minutes I have a blast. I especially enjoy the fellow in the pink bicycle cap, the team camp, who, after making a mistake, places his hands on his hips and pouts, "Tina made me do it!" I also enjoy the man who shouts, "Solo, Carlo, solo. Shoot, doll!" and the one who cheers, "Good play, Phil. We love you, Phil!" I have been here only

an hour, but already I love this team.

I would continue to enjoy the game, but suddenly, with no warning at all, I hear a wrenching sound in my knee. My leg gives way under me, and I collapse in agony, writhing on the ground. Because there is no one anywhere near me, I cannot blame this on anyone except perhaps the industrious gopher I have seen earlier. I am simply a 34-year-old incompetent whose spirit is willing but whose flesh is weak. Yet no one laughs. No one makes fun of the asshole reporter doing the George Plimpton routine, and I hobble off the field with my honor and pride intact.

Despite my injury, I hang around long enough to listen to the post-practice discussion about a team uniform. The team camp, naturally, insists on pearls and a mink collar to complement his outfit. Before any decisions can be reached, however, another pesky gopher (or the same one I am blaming) raises his nasty little head, and the team camp screeches, "EEK! My snatch!" The other players pelt the gopher with orange peels, and I decide it is time to leave, past the rugby players who still look cute—but who are entirely too straight for me today.

Brooklynite Dodges Gays, Wants To Repeal Rights Bill

NEW YORK—A New York City councilmember is attempting a referendum drive designed for the repeal of Local Law 2, the recently watered-down gay rights bill in the city. Noach Dear, a Brooklyn councilmember, is the leader of the new Family Rights Coalition. He wants to get a referendum on NYC's November ballot and amend the City Charter in order to restrict the City Council's power to establish "protected classes" not already listed in the new York State Human Rights Law. The Empire State's state law does not include lesbians and gay men.

Several legal experts feel Dear may be bucking a sexual rights trend at the wrong crossing. Most New Yorkers, they say, favor the gay rights law.

Dear claims that most New Yorkers are opposed to Local Law 2, but a poll in the June 5 issue of the *New York Daily News* indicated that most New Yorkers don't agree with Dear. Fifty-six percent of the 503 persons polled were in favor of Local Law 2.

Illinois Senate OKs Testing Bill Which Provides Anonymity

SPRINGFIELD, IL—The Illinois State Senate passed a bill "which protects public health by insuring the privacy of individuals who are the subject of blood testing for antibodies to the HTLV-3 virus." The bill, sponsored by Sen. William Marovitz, was based on recommendations of Gov. James Thompson's AIDS Advisory Group. The bill will now go to Thompson and probably will be signed.

SB 2074, as Marovitz' bill is called, states that "No person shall perform a test for the presence of the antibody to HTLV-3 without first receiving the written, informed consent of the subject of the test or the subject's legally authorized representative."

Marovitz claims that someone who wishes anonymity will have that right. He said his bill says a pseudonym or a code in lieu of his or her legal name may be used. The bill also prohibits any tester from disclosing names of those tested.

—The Windy City Times of Chicago



Where the action is

(Photo: Rink)

The New York Native

A QUESTION OF LAW

Be Careful In Granting Powers of Attorney

In January, Barry was diagnosed with AIDS-Related Complex (ARC). In March, he was told he had AIDS. Having been a responsible person all of his life, he felt he should get his affairs in order. He owned a car, a small piece of property at the Russian River and had some cash in the bank.

He wrote a will so that his lover and his elderly mother would be protected. He gave his power of attorney to an associate at work whom he felt would be more clear headed in times of crisis to manage his affairs than his lover or his mother. In June, this "trusted" associate transferred and sold his Russian River property and his car. He emptied the bank account and no one has seen him since.

Barry is now at home recovering from his second bout with pneumocystis. He has no cash, no car, no property and he is a mess.

John has KS. Fearing that no one would be around to care for him when he got sick, he deeded his home to his lover of six months with the expectation that the lover would look after him and care for him. Two months later the lover tired of the task and moved out. The home is now in the lover's name who says that it was a gift from John.

These stories were made up for the purpose of writing this article. Unfortunately, there are too many similar stories that have happened to real people. Estate planning is important to all of us. It is especially important if you are ill. What tools are available to guide us in our future planning and what are the ramifications of the use of these tools?

LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT

If you want control over how your assets are distributed at the time of your death, then you must have a will. In the absence of a will, the Probate Code determines who gets your assets and it will be your next of kin (children, heterosexual spouse, living parents, etc.). With a will, however, you can give your real and personal property to anyone you wish.

There are two types of wills. If you own any real estate or if the total value of all of your property including cash, furniture, clothes, jewelry, stocks, etc. exceeds \$30,000, then your estate will have to be probated.

We tend to think that probate is a bad or cumbersome process. In reality, probate is meant as a protection for the estate of the deceased to see that the property of the deceased is administered efficiently, that is, not allowed to lose value after the person's death and that the property actually goes to whom the deceased wants to get it.

In this situation, I would recommend a formal will, that is, one prepared by a lawyer who has knowledge of the probate laws and will see that it is properly executed. Likewise, I would recommend a formal will in any situation where you fear that a relative may come in and challenge the will. Some relatives cannot accept the fact that you would want to leave your property to a lover or a friend. A formal will is a protection that the relative will not be successful in setting aside the will.

If, on the other hand, your

estate is modest and you simply want the peace of mind in knowing that your favorite items go to those you love, then a handwritten or holographic will might be appropriate. You may put any gifts or provisions in the handwritten will you wish.

There are, however, three essential requirements that must be met in order for a holographic will to be valid. It must be totally in the handwriting of the person writing the will. It must be dated, and it must be signed. Without these three requirements being met, the will is not valid and would not be recognized.

DIRECTIVE TO PHYSICIANS

This is often confused with a power of attorney which is used to give authority for one person to manage the property of another person. A Directive to Physicians is the document authorized by the California Natural Death Act which directs doctors not to use life sustaining procedures which would serve to artificially prolong the moment of death in those situations where the physician determined that death is imminent, whether or not life sustaining procedures are utilized.

That is, if death is imminent and you have executed a Directive to Physicians, your doctor is instructed to withdraw or withhold extraordinary means to prolong your life. The Directive to Physicians is like a will in that it must be witnessed by two adults who are not related to you by blood or marriage, are not employed by your health care provider, are not mentioned by you in your will, and would have no claim on your estate. It is a printed form and is readily available.

POWER OF ATTORNEY

Unlike the Directive to Physicians which deals with medical decisions affecting terminally ill patients, a Power of Attorney is a document that gives another person the right to control your real and personal property. A very broad power of attorney grants another person the right to withdraw cash from your bank account, sell your house, or borrow money in your name. It gives the person to whom the power is granted the same right to manage your property that you have.

It is the Power of Attorney that seems to be causing the most trouble with sick people today. They feel that the Power of Attorney is necessary in order to get their affairs in order in anticipation of death. That is not the case. Decisions affecting disposition of property after one's death should be left in the will. A will can be changed at any time prior to death should the testator so desire.

The wrongful use of a Power of Attorney, however, may be impossible to correct. Many people think a Power of Attorney is necessary in order to accomplish what is properly reserved for a Directive to Physicians. I strongly advise seeking professional counseling from a lawyer before executing a Power of Attorney.

DEEDING PROPERTY PRIOR TO DEATH

Life the power of attorney, executing deeds, transferring ownership of real property, has

become a common source of abuse and misery. One of the reasons I hear for deeding property prior to death is to avoid estate taxes.

This is not going to be an issue unless you own a good deal of property with a total estate value of near \$750,000. Even then, deeding the property would subject you to gift taxes which are based on the same rates. Transfers to avoid taxes is not particularly wise and subject to being set aside in any event.

Another frequently given reason for deeding property prior to death is to avoid probate. Again, this is the tail wagging the dog. Probate is intended as a protection. The probate court watches the administration of the estate and makes certain that property is not squandered and that it is disposed of in accordance with your desires as expressed in your will.

I strongly advise against deeding away property prior to death. Once you have done it, it is permanent. The circumstances justifying it at the time may change. The anticipated help and care from the one to whom the property was deeded may not be there.

Additionally, you may need the property for your own support or for the ultimate protection of a loved one.

If you insist on changing title to the property to avoid probate then you can put the property in your name along with someone else as a joint tenant with right of survivorship. At least this way you do not lose total control of the property until the time of your death. It substantially limits the flexibility you have in disposing of the property, however.

The best alternative for disposal of property at the time of death continues to be a properly executed will. It is my strong belief that a properly drawn will coupled with a Directive to Physicians and perhaps a very narrowly drawn and limited Power of Attorney, depending on your circumstances, is the best form of estate planning for all of us whether ill or not.

SOURCES OF ASSISTANCE

There are resources available to help in estate planning for people who are ill, even if you are unable to pay for it. For a referral to a competent lawyer who can handle your case on a sliding fee or no fee at all basis, I would recommend contacting Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom (BALIF) AIDS Legal Referral Panel at 864-8186.

Thomas E. Horn

Non-Bias Policy Adopted By NFPA

The National Federation of Paralegal Associations, Inc. (NFPA) adopted a nondiscriminatory clause into its by-laws regarding sexual orientation at its 1986 Annual Meeting at the Claremont Hotel in Oakland, June 13-17.

The NFPA is a professional organization comprised of 39 associations and represents over 10,000 paralegals nationwide.

The East Bay Association of Legal Assistants (EBALA) hosted this year's meeting and also proposed this addition. EBALA can be reached at P.O. Box 424, Oakland, CA 94604.

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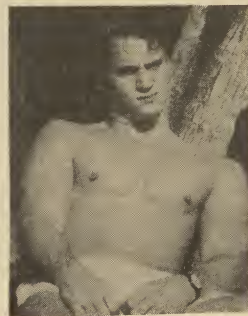
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Black Leaders Urged To Confront Homophobia

by Gil Gerald

In a speech delivered on May 31 to the Southern Christian Leadership Conference's (SCLC) National Conference on AIDS, Gil Gerald, executive director of the National Coalition of Black Lesbians and Gays (NCBLG), called on the Black community to recognize racism and homophobia as key impediments to AIDS prevention and care among Blacks. The SCLC Conference on AIDS was the first AIDS conference organized by a major national Black organization in the United States.

NCBLG, a network of 3,000 people, is the only autonomous Black lesbian and gay organization in the United States. &National Coalition of Black Lesbians and Gays, 930 F. Street, N.W., Suite 514, Washington, DC, 20004, (202) 737-5276

I am indeed honored to be able to address this SCLC/Women's Conference on AIDS as a representative of an at risk community—sexually active Black gay men—and as a representative of the National Coalition of Black Lesbians and Gays. Your actions come at a time when there are other prominent Black organizations who will not touch the subject of AIDS because of its association with the taboo topic of homosexuality, which is often viewed as some sort of white disease, and therefore alien to the Black community.

Today, some five years into the AIDS crisis it is becoming more widely understood in the Black community that AIDS is having a far more devastating effect on those of us who are Black. This should not come as a surprise. Because of inequities in the health care delivery system and the disparities in education, diet, and economic well being between Blacks and whites, we are always struck harder by disease. One only need look at the continuing incidence of cancer, high blood pressure, heart disease, infant mortality and other health indicators to recognize this fact.

More of us now know that 25 percent of all 20,000 U.S. AIDS cases are Black. This compares with the fact that the Black community only makes up about 12 percent of the U.S. population. We also know that three out of every five children with AIDS are Black children and that one out of every two women with AIDS is a Black woman. We also know that four out of every ten people with AIDS are non-white—about 8,000 of the 20,000 cases in the U.S.

With all due respect to those of you who disagree, I believe that the proposition that this disease is God's punishment on a class or category of people is as racist a proposition as it is homophobic, in view of the facts, not the myths, about AIDS. Indeed racism and homophobia, as well as classism, are key impediments to AIDS prevention and the care of people with AIDS in the Black community. Let's deal with racism and homophobia as an impediment to health care delivery.

Jeff Levi, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, informs me that over the past five years the gay and lesbian community has raised, matched, or exceeded the \$500 to \$600 million the government has poured into the AIDS health crisis. It is an example of what people can do for themselves in a society that spurns them.

This effort by mostly white organizations had its limitations. Racism and racial divisions or separateness transcend sexual orientation.

A study of Black gay men in the San Francisco area by Black psychologist Julius Johnson, ex-

plores the fact that Black homosexuals have identity concerns which we resolve in a variety of ways. We often are made to feel we must choose between an emphasis on our identity as gays and our identity as Blacks, and that these identities are mutually exclusive. By contrast the organization I represent is founded on the proposition that we can be whole—we need not choose—we can be both Black and gay, proud of both. Our current theme, "Black Pride and Solidarity: the New Movement of Black Lesbians and Gays" restates the political and social implications of that consciousness.

Blacks, who emphasize their gay identity, have adjusted to their personal encounter with gay oppression by socializing and adjusting to life in the white gay ghetto. His or her Black identified gay brother and sister, on the other hand, remain physically "closeted" in the Black community and its institutions. Either option is a compromise. In the first case racism is accommodated, and in the second, homophobia is accommodated. Both options represent complicity with a system of oppression that denies our very existence. You cannot provide services, health or otherwise, to a community that does not exist.

These facts have great repercussions. The networks and institutions, of the gay community created to deal with the AIDS crisis cannot have much effect beyond those Black individuals who are already accessible to them. This represents a minority of us, Black gays, and practically none of the IV drug users. The language we use, our socializing patterns, as well as our numbers are very much still a mystery to the white gay community as a whole.

The racism that permeates many gay establishments is a documented fact that has necessitated the enactment of antidiscrimination legislation in cities like Washington, D.C. This fact of alienation and separation in the gay community would not be as devastating if our political institutions—institutions like the National Coalition of Black Lesbians and Gays—were more developed at this time in history. Black lesbian and gay organizing

is still largely centered around our socializing needs and our need to remain hidden. We are less likely to risk alienation from our home community—the Black community—by politicizing the gay issue.

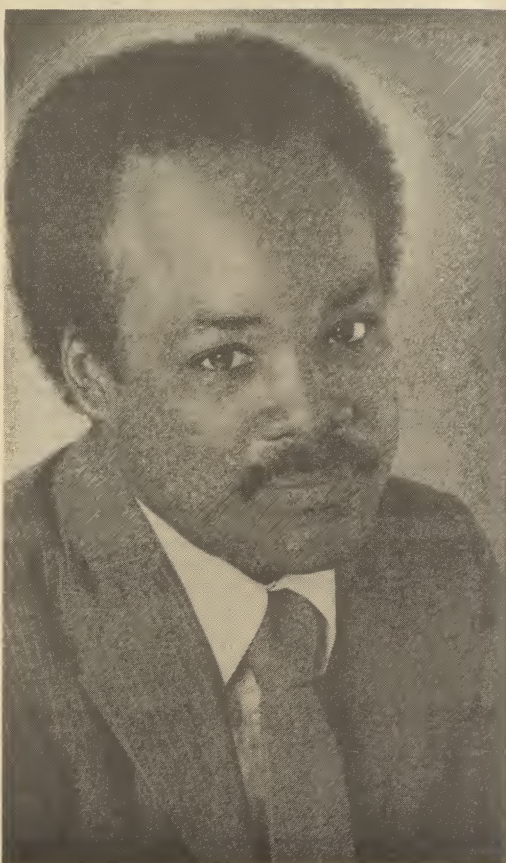
This brings us to the issue of homophobia in the Black community. We have been too eager to buy into the myths of AIDS and homosexuality that is perpetuated by the mass media—that these are white concerns. We have seen *An Early Frost* on TV and can empathize with the difficulties of the family. However, the all-white cast of characters contributes to the distortion of the truth about the demographics of AIDS. We read *Newsweek* magazine, and for the last fifteen years we see depicted a distorted picture of who lesbian and gay people are.

We somehow remove ourselves from lesbian and gay people and then dare to celebrate the lives and contributions of James Baldwin, Audre Lorde, Langston Hughes, Bayard Rustin, Alain Locke, Countee Cullen, Bessie Smith, Porter Grainger, Lorraine Hansberry, Wallace Thurmond, Bruce Nugent, and Sylvester—all people we love and appreciate for their contributions to community life.

Effective programs for the prevention of AIDS in the Black community will require some frank and open dialogue that acknowledges the transmission modes of this disease and the existence of Black lesbians and gays among us who lead, and have always led, both exemplary and ordinary lives. Examination of the statistics indicate that intravenous drug abuse and sexual transmission contribute equally to the incidence of AIDS among Blacks. The issue of AIDS cannot be tackled without acknowledging both of these facts.

If we are to make some headway in stopping the spread of AIDS and AIDS hysteria, we must recognize the social, political, and economic implications of the crisis.

People with AIDS require support, services, and love like any other individual who is ill. It can be an extremely difficult time for persons afflicted with AIDS and their families. It is likely to be the



Gil Gerard

(Photo: S. Farmer)

time when the individual must confront his or her family with the truth of his or her lifestyle, whether it be that of one of a myriad of gay lifestyles, or that of an intravenous drug user.

People with AIDS are likely to encounter more discrimination than they already experience, and at a time when they are more likely than not to be within three years of death at an early age. Persons with AIDS often have a reduced capacity for providing for themselves because they have been unfairly terminated from their regular jobs or are too ill to work. The insurance companies

as a community, to not understand and support the need for legislation of this kind all over the country.

Blacks with AIDS are dying quicker than their white counterparts. Diagnosis is likely to come at more advanced stages of the disease and we have less access to the best available care. It is the ultimate tragedy that those of us who come down with AIDS might seek refuge among strangers in our hour of need.

In conclusion, it is the position of the National Coalition of Black Lesbians and Gays that Black institutions need to get in-

'Blacks, who emphasize their gay identity, have adjusted to their personal encounter with gay oppression by socializing and adjusting to life in the white gay ghetto.'

—Gil Gerald

under the guise of protecting everyone's insurance rates from going up are beginning to deny insurance to people who are AIDS antibody positive.

One million people are believed to now be AIDS antibody positive, many of them Black and poor. Only a small portion of them are expected to develop ARC or full blown AIDS. Yet, the insurance industry proposes to deny all of them insurance. While most of these people will not develop AIDS, they will need health insurance to cover other ailments. It would be folly for us,

involved more aggressively in pursuing funding for our own programs in AIDS prevention, and information. Furthermore we need to provide AIDS related support services for people with AIDS and the families of people with AIDS in the community.

The most effective programs will be those that refrain from being judgemental, involve members of the at risk communities, and focus on providing useful medical information and caring services to those afflicted with, and at risk for AIDS. ●

Scalia Nixed Gay Privacy Rights

Reagan Court Nominee Doesn't Believe In Constitutional Right to Privacy

by George Mendenhall

Judge Antonin Scalia, Pres. Ronald Reagan's nominee for a U.S. Supreme Court justice, voted with a U.S. Court of Appeals ruling two years ago that said private, consensual sex of gay people is not protected by the constitution. The conservative judge is a Roman Catholic with nine children who was appointed to the Appeals court by Reagan in 1982. Scalia is expected to be approved after upcoming U.S. Senate hearings.

The controversial ruling involved James Dronenburg, a Navy linguist with nine years seniority. He was found in his base quarters in a bed with an enlisted man. Dronenburg claimed that his privacy had been invaded and that he was entitled to private consensual sex under the constitution. The Navy disagreed.

Dronenburg was discharged because he violated an established "instruction" that any sailor who "solicits, attempts or engages in homosexual acts shall normally be separated from the service." The Navy claimed that his presence "seriously impairs combat readiness, efficiency, security and morale."

National Gay Rights Advocates (NGRA) took the Dronenburg case through the courts. A three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of appeals unanimously ruled against private consensual sex for gay people. NGRA asked for a rehearing, but it was denied. NGRA decided not to appeal, fearing a negative decision in the High Court.

'NEW RIGHTS'

The Dronenburg ruling was written by Judge Robert Bork, a longtime conservative critic of the Supreme Court's interest in what he calls 'new rights' he believes are not guaranteed by the Constitution. Scalia chose to agree with Bork.

Attorney Leonard Graff, NGRA executive director, said the Dronenburg lawyers argued that the Supreme Court already had established the right to privacy in matters related to sexuality. These included cases involving abortion, the right to purchase contraceptives, and interracial marriage. Graff pointed to a Court decision this week which ruled that sexual harassment on the job was unconstitutional.

"Bork went far beyond the facts in the case in his decision," Graff said. "He and the other two justices used Dronenburg to run their conservative credentials up the flag pole for all to see." This, he believes, will benefit Scalia.

Scalia (Skuh LEE yuh) agreed with Bork's contention during the Dronenburg ruling that the Supreme Court had not set any precedents in earlier sexually-related decisions. Bork said the High Court was "creating new rights" that lower courts didn't need to follow. Bork said he was looking beyond these decisions to broader principles the Court had already "articulated."

Bork wrote, with Scalia's approval, "We would find it impossible to conclude that a right to homosexual conduct is 'fundamental' or 'implicit in the concept of ordered liberty' unless any and all private sexual behavior falls within those categories, a conclusion we are unwilling to draw."

WHAT IS A RIGHT?

Scalia has made his position clear in a 1978 debate. "The Courts' expansion stems, in part, from their function of deciding what are constitutional rights. Much of their activity is in that area, and I think they have gone too far. They have found rights where society never believed they existed.

"The Courts have enforced other rights, so-called, on which there is no societal agreement,



Judge Antonin Scalia: gay people don't like him.

from the abortion codes and things of that sort. There is no national consensus about those

things and there never has been. The courts have no business being there. That is one of the prob-

lems; they are calling rights things which we do not all agree on."

Graff believes all might not be lost with Scalia on the court "although I wouldn't put money on it." He said there have been surprises on the Supreme Court in the past. "Harry Blackman was a Nixon appointee but ended up being a liberal and William Brennan, appointed by Eisenhower, became more progressive than we expected. Byron White was a Kennedy appointment but became a moderate conservative. Scalia is now at the height of his career and he is no longer under pressure. Maybe his conservatism will become more moderate," said Graff.

Scalia has already missed what some attorneys believe is the most important Supreme Court ruling concerning gay rights. The case, *Hardwick v. Bowers* contests Georgia's sodomy law that provides a 20-year prison sentence for any act of sodomy. Michael Hardwick was arrested for sodomy in 1982. He was found in bed with another man in 1982 when a police officer entered with a warrant for an unpaid traffic ticket. The *Hardwick* decision will be one of 40 announced before the Court adjourns in July. ●

G. Mendenhall

An Urgent Appeal from Shanti Project

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Greg Day Launches Drive For School Board

by Charles Linebarger

Greg Day, long an activist on school and youth issues, has told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he intends to run for a spot on the San Francisco Board of Education.

Day said he will be running for the board as an independent. "Thus far the incumbents on the board have been reluctant to support a gay candidate," said Day, "even though the gay community has consistently supported the incumbents."

"We have a situation where the incumbents are expecting to receive the full support of the gay community. They're counting on our votes to be re-elected but thus far they've been reluctant to support our direct participation in the board. I'm expecting that situation to change," he said.

Day's decision comes in the wake of the creation of a slate of two candidates backed by Cecil Williams of Glide Memorial Church, Assembly Speaker Willie Brown, and Nancy Honig, wife of state schools superintendent Bill Honig. The aim of the slate is to unseat board president Myra Kopf. Day, the gay candidate, was passed over by the anti-Kopf group.

Day said he is not running against any particular candidate and that his campaign will not be part of any faction or slate. "I think that gay teachers, students and parents in the district need to have someone to represent their interests. With the LaRouche initiative, which targets both students and faculty, it's more important than ever to field a candidate."

The gay school board candidate is also optimistic about his chances for election. "The gay community is the single most predictable voting group in San Francisco. In a city-wide election, we consistently make up 22 percent of the vote. That is the reason we have so much campaigning in the gay community by candidates from other communities. Unfortunately, we do not take our own power as seriously as other people in San Francisco do."

Day is a former teacher at an inner-city school in Atlanta, and former instructor at Rutgers University. He has been co-chair of the campaign to reopen San

Francisco's playgrounds after school, a member of the Mayor's Council on Children, Youth and Families, co-chair of the Youth Emergency Services Coalition, member of the Family Life and Health Education Committee of the school district and founder and chair of the Lesbian and Gay Youth Advocacy Council.

The rebel slate was originally intended to field three candidates for the school board. That was changed to only two candidates, Sidonia Wilson and Dr. Leland Lee, after Day entered the race, according to Roberto Esteves, president of the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club.

Esteves welcomed Day's candidacy and noted the fact that since Day had not been included in the anti-Kopf slate, he would not be receiving any help from the \$200,000 campaign chest that the well-heeled group is amassing.

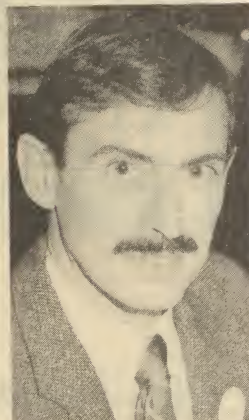
"Greg felt, and I agree with him," said Esteves, "that with LaRouche on the ballot, as well as the fact that we have a gay person running for the College Board (Paul Wotman), and we have another candidate for the Board of Supervisors (Pat Norman), that it was only logical for us to run a candidate for the Board of Education."

Esteves said, "The important thing about this is that the gay community doesn't have to be only on the defensive as a result of the LaRouche initiative. We can turn our anger into some positive energy."

Tom Ammiano, gay teacher and comic, ran for the Board of Education in 1980 and did surprisingly well for a gay man running without mainstream endorsements. He won 50,000 votes, ranking sixth, or just two places



Greg Day (Photo: Rink)



Roberto Esteves (Photo: Rink)

away from a seat on the Board. Ammiano was endorsed in his race by a current candidate, Jewel Anderson.

Anderson received high marks from long-time gay activist, Hank Wilson, who also noted that Sidonia Wilson, on the anti-Kopf slate, has been "unhelpful" during her term on the board.

Day is likely to win near universal support in the gay community but whether he finds a seat on the Board of Education will depend also on the support he garners in the city's other communities.

"The school district has a budget of over \$300 million a year," said Day. "It is educating the future citizens who will have a direct impact on our lives. These young people have got to have a good education that includes factual and positive information about our community. And that's why the school board should be our first objective in electing a representative from our community."

Stars Come Out For Film Fest

by Charles Linebarger

The tenth annual San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival opened at the Castro Theatre Friday, June 20 to a sold out house of over 8,000 ticket holders. The theater filled for two feature showings of the evening in a demonstration of community support for America's preeminent gay film festival.

A huge throng lined the block of Castro between Market and 18th Streets waiting to enter the theater as Sistah Boom, a lesbian percussion and dancing group, entertained onlookers.

Upstairs, inside the movie palace, a two-hour reception was held to honor this year's filmmakers. Jaime Humberto Hermosillo, Mexican director of the film which kicked off the festival this year *Dona Herlinda and Her Son*, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that this was his first film using gay characters.

"It's very difficult to get money to make films now," said Hermosillo, "because we are in a very difficult situation with the economy, and of course, it is even more difficult with gay films. I don't see any trouble distributing this film in Mexico. Actually, our censorship board saw it and liked it very much and put the film

in the National Cinematheque for two months."

Hans F Adler, Austrian director of *Wiener Brut*, the first Austrian gay film to come to the U.S., said of his film that it "just happened to have a lot of gay characters." F Adler described his film as a satire on Vienna. "The characters play mostly themselves, but the story is totally fiction," he said. Gay filmmaker and author, James Broughton, told the *B.A.R.* he never misses a film festival, "I come whenever they invite me," he said. "I'm preparing for my diamond jubilee in 1988."

Asked what he is doing today, Broughton said, "I'm doing my last film. It's about me, what else? It's my last film so it should be about the last things I have to say."

Rob Epstein, co-creator of the Academy Award winning *Times of Harvey Milk*, was on hand also. "Harvey Milk was here as a work in progress in '82," recalled Epstein. He is currently working

(Continued on page 28)

Bingo Yields \$10,000 For Coming Home Hospice

Four months ago, the members of the Most Holy Redeemer Neighborhood Support Group pledged to raise \$30,000 towards the renovation of Coming Home Hospice. The goal was large, but the volunteers believed in the project. In April, 1986, 30 of the volunteers began a Thursday night Coming Home Hospice Bingo in the basement of the church. The word spread rapidly and the bingo's success was almost immediate. On June 16 the volunteers presented Hospice of San Francisco with the first \$10,000 installment on their pledge of \$30,000. They expect to raise the balance by the end of December, 1986.

Coordinator Ron Black describes the support from the Castro area merchants as enthusiastic and very generous—they have consistently donated prizes to the bingo. The weekly players, now numbering more than 250, enjoy serious bingo, with prizes of \$150 per game. The 30 bingo volunteers circulate in bright blue T-shirts, offering assistance and chances at "cherry pulls" for fifty cents each, as well as serving hot dogs, nachos, and sodas. The volunteers range from 22-73 years of age, from all backgrounds. The things they have in common are energy, enthusiasm, and a sincere desire to help neighbors and friends in the community who are dying of AIDS and other illnesses.

Coming Home Hospice will provide a residential setting for up to fifteen people in the former convent building. The environment will be warm, inviting, and as home-like as possible. More than 100 volunteers as well as staff from Hospice of San Francisco will provide supervision,

care, and most of all, loving support for the residents. Renovations are scheduled to begin the first week of August, 1986 and continue for 16-18 weeks.

The volunteers of the Most Holy Redeemer Neighborhood Support Group are representative of the hundreds of people who have become involved with the Coming Home Hospice Project. From the interior designers to the volunteer painters, the community has come out strongly and compassionately for this effort. Fundraisers have been well supported and the campaign is nearly halfway to its goal of \$450,000 for renovations, equipment, and furnishings.



The volunteers at the Coming Home Hospice Bingo Night

(Photo: Rink)

Forward Together— No Turning Back

A SPECIAL APPEAL TO MEN OVER 45

July 4 With Great Outdoors

The 4th of July in San Francisco will prove to be one of Great Outdoors' most memorable activities. Members and guests can join us for the full day of fun and food on Friday the 4th, and/or camp with us Thursday, Friday and Saturday, all happening at Kirby Cove.

Reservations for camping and the picnic are on a first come first served basis. The cost is \$15 per person which includes overnight camping fees and a great picnic on Friday, July 4. The 4th picnic alone is only \$6. Call Bob Dressel to reserve a camp site at 585-0958 from 10-12 noon on Saturdays and 7:30-9:00 p.m. Wednesdays or leave a message at 864-6870. ●

NAMBLA Journal Available

NAMBLA Journal Seven, a publication of the North American Man/Boy Love Association, is now available at leading gay and progressive bookstores.

The 80-page double-issue journal contains short stories, poems, and major nonfiction articles by authors from Europe, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

Contributors include the poets Antler and Hakim Bey, Dutch Sen. Edward Brongersma, Belgian activist Philippe Carpentier, novelist Kevin Esser, Allen Ginsberg, *Minor Problems* editor Mick Licarpa, Beat-era writer Harold Norse, German boy-love and gay activist Peter Schult, and poet David Emmerson Smith.

Copies may also be ordered by mail from NAMBLA for \$7 plus \$1.75 postage. Write: NAMBLA Journal Seven, 537 Jones Street, #8418, San Francisco, CA 94102. ●

Some people have the mistaken notion that AIDS is a young man's disease—that older men aren't at great risk of contracting AIDS.

The statistics indicate otherwise. There are cases of AIDS among newborn babies and cases of AIDS among gay men in their eighties. AIDS does not discriminate on the basis of age (or race, gender, or sexual orientation).

In San Francisco, 35 per cent of men with AIDS are over 40. Nearly ten per cent of San Francisco AIDS cases are found in men 50 and older. By contrast, only 15 per cent of people with AIDS here are in their twenties.

Studies conducted for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation by a professional research firm indicate that men over 45 in San Francisco,

compared to any other demographic group in the local gay or bisexual male population, tend to be less knowledgeable about AIDS-prevention, and more likely to engage in anonymous Unsafe Sex than their younger counterparts.

We urge men over 45 to reassess their risk of contracting AIDS and to help spread the word to their contemporaries: Men over 45 are definitely at risk for AIDS.

Help is available. The STOP AIDS project, 621-7177, offers one-evening discussion groups about the AIDS epidemic for men of all ages; older men are especially welcome. The AIDS Health Project, 626-6637, provides eight-week support groups focused on issues of social support, health promotion, and AIDS. And, of course, the Foundation's AIDS HOT-

LINE, 863-AIDS, can provide the latest information on AIDS-risk and AIDS-prevention, as well as other referrals.

Remember, with AIDS, it's the sexual activity you engage in that counts, not how old you are. Please protect yourself and your partners from AIDS.



THE SAN FRANCISCO
AIDS FOUNDATION
333 Valencia St., 4th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94103

415-863-AIDS

Toll Free in

Northern California:
800-FOR-AIDS

TDD: 415-864-6606

Major funding for the educational programs of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation is provided by the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

FORWARD TOGETHER

NO TURNING BACK!

Gather In An Enchanted Land

Faeries and Witches Circle Together to Heal Tensions

by Tom Bond

I knew it almost as soon as I arrived. Fresh from several months of running on overdrive in the city, we pulled into the Farallones Institute in Occidental. The first thing I saw as the car lurched over the potholes on the tiny, winding dirt road was a lovingly hand-painted sign saying "Time to Slow Down." It was the first hint of the love, care, and enchantment (the only word that fits) that I and several others would experience for the next three days.

We were on a way to a gathering. A fairy gathering, but actually much more. It had been billed as an adventure of the soul, a "spiritual gathering with alternative healings," a title with just about every New Age buzz-word you could conveniently fit onto a flyer. But I knew it would be more than that.

It was to be the first time that the "fairy community" was to open a space for men and women to celebrate together.

"Just follow the path through the garden to the dirt road, turn left and follow it to the dirt road, turn left and follow it to the pond. Men only on the far right, women only on the far left, and the area in the middle is for those that can't decide, we were told. It seemed a logical plan.

The next hint was the garden on the path as it wound its way toward the campsite. Nestled behind an aging wooden gate, it bloomed in all its splendor.

It was enchanted. Rows upon rows of green leafy plants snugled up to the well-mulched rich brown earth between patches of blooming wildflowers and herbs. Vibrant colors leapt between lush green veggies in a seemingly random, yet somehow very right pattern. Nary a bug, mold, or any kind of disease was apparent. The whole place seemed to radiate an intense healthiness. The love that was poured into that garden was visible in every plant and seedling.

By this time people were arriving in a constant stream. Greetings and embraces flowed like water. I couldn't stand still. Something about this place, or maybe the time, the full moon, or the people—beautiful, caring, aware, loving people—kept acting on my system like some kind of tonic.

As I followed the path behind the solar greenhouse and dormitory, the woods closed in upon me like an embrace. Now, any fairy will tell you that getting a chance to throw off "civilization" and set your clock back to "nature-time" is where it's at. But never had the impact been so rapid and intense. Quiet settled upon me as sunlight filtered through the tall trees.

As I walked along I spied the stump of a giant redwood—perhaps six to eight feet in diameter. Secondary growth had sprouted from the stump to create a circle of now mature trees surrounding it like guardians. The inside was decaying into soft, golden chips of wood, making a kind of huge bowl, now filled with the sparkling shaft of sun. I hugged that tree and cried. The time span of a tree can be very comforting after the mad rush of the city.

The first night was windy and cold as the sun went down. Sufficiently so for me to wonder if all that flimsy fairy drag was going to be useless. About an hour after sunset, however, the wind died



Faeries believe in togetherness. (Photo: R. Beauregard)

and the moon and the stars came out bathing the land in a silver glow—enchantment.

We had a welcoming circle and dinner. Randy, the tall and amiable caretaker explained that this place was run by the Farallones Institute. They worked on a small portion, gardening exotic produce, and experimented with "appropriate technology" to live lightly off the land. Most of the 80 acres were kept as undisturbed as possible. They had recently decided to open it up to "aware" groups to help support the land, while trying to keep the impact to a minimum. In short, it was a living, breathing, growing example of what many in the fairies have en-

visioned as the ideal space for a sanctuary from the "real" world.

Saturday was a day of sharing and delight, as well as some conflict and disappointments. Z. Budapest led a wonderful circle as filled with light as the setting. At the pond, she explained much about the Dianic tradition and her experience as a feminist and a witch.

"People get all upset if they hear that a witch might hex a man who has done violence to a woman. It's all right for a woman to defend herself by going to some class where she learns to punch, gouge, and otherwise go for some guy's vital spots. But it's not all right to use the Art to make him break out in boils?"



Z. Budapest, the lesbian witch (r.) (Photo: R. Beauregard)

Z. explained the Dianic tradition, the pantheon of goddesses and their relationship to our lives. She dwelt on Maderia, the goddess of endings, the one with the scissors who cuts the cord. She talked about how the gay community should take Halloween more seriously. "That is the time to pay homage to endings and those who have gone before," she said, "even if it is just to light a candle and acknowledge the powers that complete, before going out to party all night.

She led the group in some simple, yet very powerful chants for raising energy. At one point, she led the circle in a rising chant which released energy through its participants. At the end, a huge gust of wind whipped through our hair, as if in acknowledgement. I must admit I do love special effects.

Every gathering has one principal circle which seems to set the tone of the gathering. Often it is a healing circle, of sorts. Sometimes at gatherings the energy starts to go wrong (well, nobody's perfect. At first everybody pretends that nothing is really wrong.

Then the circle will turn its collective attention to the problem—now named and accepted—and heal it.

At this gathering, it was the ill-

ease that having women present was causing. These varied from sexual tensions at the ritual to the inability to feel free to touch the opposite sex freely (as the men often do among themselves at gatherings). The women did not feel represented enough, not having a sufficient identity (the women were outnumbered about 5 to 1).

What ensued were some of the most healing discussions of the gathering. Space was created for the women to reclaim their identity. Space was allowed for touching and sharing among both sexes. Acknowledgement was made that we had a long way to go, and acknowledgement was given that we were trying. In short, it was "love magic" at its best.

As the circle ended with a group hug, someone said "look up at the sky!" A huge circular rainbow completely surrounded the sun. Love and care returned as beauty and magic. Whoops of joy and gasps of wonder ended this very special gathering. Enchanting.

For those who would like more information about the fairies or the fairy sanctuary project, contact Touch Circle at P.O. Box 3350, Berkeley, CA 94703. ●

Volunteers Needed in ARC Treatment Study

Two hundred volunteers with ARC are needed for a study on the effects of alternative medicine on the immune system. The study will attempt to show that aggressive treatment of the immune system by Chinese medical techniques will result in fewer opportunistic infections and improve immune functioning.

Volunteers will fill out an in-depth questionnaire at the beginning and end of the six-month study. Some will be selected to receive weekly treatment with Chinese herbs and acupuncture during the study. An equal number will receive additional

treatment for ARC symptoms.

The Immune Enhancement Project, which is conducting the study, wants volunteers who exhibit the symptoms of AIDS-Related Complex but who don't have a life-threatening opportunistic infection. ARC Symptoms include weight loss, diarrhea, night sweats and a general failure to thrive. Persons who have had Kaposi's sarcoma for at least a year with no current infections are also welcome.

Project coordinators Jay Sordean and Susan Black say they are focusing on ARC because "these people have a better chance of getting well and yet are

almost totally ignored" by current AIDS-related research. They hope that their study will point the way to a non-toxic, immune-enhancing therapy. Unlike the experimental AIDS drugs now being tested, Chinese medicine has few side effects. Statistical data gathered during the study may reveal patterns enabling further refinement of treatment with acupuncture and herbs, Sordean says.

Project funding limits the number who can be treated during the study. However, participants can use self-funding or individual sponsorship to join the treatment group. Participants can pursue other types of treat-

ment concurrently with study treatment. This non-profit study is funded by the People's Life Fund and by matching grants.

Sordean is a nationally certified acupuncturist who has studied Oriental medicine in Asia, Europe and the USA. Black is a nurse who works with AIDS and disabled patients, and has a gay son who is at risk for AIDS. She practices Chinese medicine and is studying at the Institute for Traditional Medicine.

For more information or to donate to the project, call Susan Black at 841-7019 or write the project at 2016 Tenth St., Berkeley, CA 94710. ●

On The Road

Midwesterners Respond to AIDS Cyclists with Interest, Support

by Jim Sutherland

So. Bend, IN — When Cycle for Life left Philadelphia, our next goal was Cleveland. By airplane, it's a short trip. By bicycle it's not so short and northern Pennsylvania is very mountainous. First, we had to cross the Poconos and then the Allegheny Mts.

The hardest part definitely was pedalling up those grades and the best part had to be the views of the small towns and neat farms in the lush green valleys. They were lush and green from the frequent rainstorms we got to share with the locals as we passed through.

Our group once again divided along lines of riders who are faster and those who prefer a more leisurely pace. Each evening the two groups met at two different campgrounds. We were very lucky in Pennsylvania to have found some beautiful and well maintained campgrounds, some with pools for a welcome swim after a hot day, pedalling 65 or 75 miles.

It was in northern Pennsylvania that we began to draw attention, since bicycle tourists are uncommon there. In several towns, the local newspaper, having heard about "some bicyclists," came out to meet us. I wasn't sure how the small towns would receive us once they learned of our cause.

Amazingly, people who interviewed and photographed us were very interested in what we were doing and very supportive. After a few initial interviews, we did not wait for the local press to meet us, but would head straight for the local newspaper as soon as we arrived in a town. The response was always the same. They were interested and they had questions.

Some of the papers are probably smaller than the *Bay Area Reporter*, but the interest, concern and generosity was as big as any city newspaper. That really surprised me. It didn't stop in Pennsylvania; it continued throughout Ohio and into northern Indiana. People in the rural areas were much more aware than I expected.

Eastern Ohio was a welcome gift after Pennsylvania. It was flat and the bicycling became so much easier. On June 5, Peter Tannen of San Francisco and I reached Cleveland. Several other riders were already there. The rest arrived the next day.

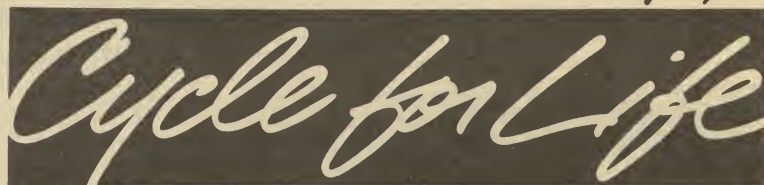
The gay community of Cleveland was expecting us and had prepared numerous events. They also opened their homes to the 20 of us, and their wallets for donations and pledges. A barbecue was given at one home which gave us all a chance to meet in one place for a week and exchange road stories. We also got to meet active people in the Cleveland community.

Several events were planned at two popular bars. Legends, an extremely large bar was packed for a raffle—first prize being a new (what else!) bicycle. A colorful drag show was put together by Cleveland's most talented and lovely entertainers including Miss Gay Cleveland.

At Isis, a women's bar downtown, was another raffle and lots of dancing. Who would think you'd feel like dancing after being on a bike for ten days—but it felt great! Cleveland turned out to be a great rest stop because our hosts were so attentive and hospitable. Several of us managed to squeeze in visits to the famous West Side Market, built in 1912, and the Western Reserve Historical Museum.

'People who interviewed us were very interested in what we were doing and very supportive.'

—Jim Sutherland



NEW YORK TO SAN FRANCISCO

tinued through Ohio to Toledo, then on into Indiana.

Northern Indiana is aware of AIDS for a different reason. In a recent national news case, a young boy was denied entry into an Indiana school because he had contracted AIDS through a blood transfusion. We received several favorable write-ups in local newspapers.

Quite by accident, as I was waiting out a thunderstorm in a gas station in rural southern Michigan, an ABC-TV news van came into the station and interviewed me for the South Bend, Indiana news. Once again the reporters were interested, aware,

and asked insightful questions about Cycle for Life.

One last impression that will stay with me for some time is bicycling through the Amish countryside of Indiana. It took some getting used to the graceful horse and buggies going by instead of cars. The farms were immaculate, the food too good to describe, and the perseverance of the Amish in a society run by automobiles fascinated me. I felt a kinship to the people as we both sped along unaided by the combustion engine.

On to Chicago.

Stereo Plus Benefit

Stereo Plus has announced a special sales event to benefit the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. The benefit will be held Friday, June 27, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturday, June 28, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. During these two business days, Stereo Plus will donate 10 percent of its total sales to the AIDS Foundation.

IS IT SAFE TO HAVE UNSAFE SEX WITH YOUR LOVER?

Many men have the mistaken idea that Unsafe Sex with a lover is safe, especially if the relationship is monogamous.

That is rarely true. For most of us, there is no safe way to have Unsafe Sex during the AIDS epidemic.

Nearly all of the publicity about AIDS has focused on avoiding Unsafe Sex with multiple partners. That is because from an epidemiological point of view, Unsafe Sex with multiple partners spreads AIDS far more widely than Unsafe Sex with a single partner.

Monogamous relationships do cut down on the spread of AIDS, but they don't guarantee the safety of the men in the relationships.

No one knows for certain just how much re-exposure to the virus is required for the disease to result. The body's defenses may be able to resist some quantity of the virus, but at some point, if you continue to be exposed (even to viruses from the same person), your body's defenses may be overcome.

It is not safe to have Unsafe Sex with your lover (or anyone else), UNLESS:

1. You have BOTH been in an EXCLUSIVELY monogamous relationship with each other for at least five years AND neither of you has shared IV needles, had transfusions, or used other blood products; OR
2. You have both been tested for HTLV-3 antibodies twice over a six-month period and have both received negative test results and haven't since been exposed.

Hardly anyone qualifies!

Caring about your partner these days means protecting one another from re-exposure to the virus. Try new and safer ways of sexual expression. Use condoms if you have anal sex. *Avoid Unsafe Sex.*

Take care of one another. Take care of the community. There is nothing you can do about the past. There is a great deal you can do about the future.

If you would like more information or assistance, help is available. The STOP AIDS

Project, 621-7177, offers one-evening discussion groups about the AIDS epidemic. The AIDS Health Project, 626-6637, provides eight-week support groups focused on issues of social support, health promotion, and AIDS. And of course, the Foundation's AIDS HOTLINE, 863-AIDS, can provide the latest information on AIDS-risk and AIDS-prevention, as well as other referrals.



THE SAN FRANCISCO AIDS FOUNDATION
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Major funding for the educational programs of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation is provided by the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

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who care.

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861-7309

The People with AIDS/ARC Switchboard is a joint project of the San
Francisco AIDS Foundation and People with AIDS/ARC San Francisco

Baptists Again Go AIDS-Bashing

Renegade SF Baptist Pastor Rejects Denomination's Stand as Un-Christian

by Allen White

Last week in Atlanta, Georgia, newly elected president of the Southern Baptist Church, Adrian Rogers, again stated the denominational claim that AIDS is a punishment by God against homosexuals. Rogers said, "Scripture teaches us that all kinds of immorality have a built-in kickback. We reap the consequences."

Rev. Jim Lowder, pastor of Dolores Street Baptist Church, disagrees with Rogers' statement. "There is a consequence to any action," he said, "If you step into traffic you may get hit by a car, but that does not mean that it is a form of God's punishment." Lowder said Rogers' remarks and other similar remarks are "disguised homophobia." He noted that the church has never condemned people who have contracted cancer or other diseases.

Lowder's congregation was ejected from the regional body of the Southern Baptist Church for its stand which welcomes lesbians and gay men into the congregation. Last week he proposed that a type of sanctuary movement be set up in the Southern Baptist Church. The concept arose as a result of the many letters he has received since controversy stirred early this year regarding his stand on gay members in his church.

Many Baptist gay men and lesbians have written saying they felt "in exile" from their church and were "waiting for their time to come back."

"I know," said Lowder, "that there are thousands out there who have these feelings."

Lowder said he believes the primary problem with the Southern Baptist leadership is that they want everybody to "think, act and believe exactly as they do." He said this position by the leaders is in contradiction to the founding principles of the Baptist church which includes the acceptance of a diversity of viewpoints.

He also said the Southern Baptist denomination is not as supportive of their new president as might be perceived. In fact, 46 percent of those voting, voted against the election of Adrian Rogers.

Lowder believes that many in the Baptist church are guided by



Rev. Jim Lowder
(Photo: Rink)

"fear, lack of understanding and a lack of education." He said he knows that there are many in his denomination who are understanding of gay issues. He added, "They can't be open in the church and especially in leadership."

Another denomination which has begun to take a stand on AIDS is the Methodist Church. Last week the denomination passed a resolution at its convention in Reno, Nevada, supporting compassion for people with AIDS. Also, the nationally distributed *Methodist Reporter* took a strong stand regarding AIDS. The position came in a lengthy statement by Rev. Earl Shelp and Rev. Ronald Sunderland of the Institute of Religion in Houston, Texas.

"Instead of responding to AIDS in an ennobling manner," Shelp and Sunderland state, "the response of Christian communities has tended to be one of apathy. The church, if it is not to be found wanting in its message and mission, can be apathetic no longer."

The statement concludes, "For the church to ignore the needs that cluster around AIDS and the people it strikes, to fail to express itself in a redemptive manner and to abandon a group of people on whose behalf few have cried out for justice and compassion constitute not merely a failure of nerve but also of discipleship."

Rev. Cecil Williams, Glide Memorial Methodist Church pastor, recently announced that his church will distribute condoms. Williams said there was now a need for examination of "safe and caring relationships."

"The condom is a symbol of male responsibility," said Rev. Williams. The controversial decision to distribute condoms at the church is an action aimed directly at men, both gay and straight, who can spread AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases.

Condom distribution at Glide church is in line with a pattern that the church has developed to directly attack problems that effect the communities it serves. Williams calls this and other activist actions, "breaking tradition."



Dolores St. Baptist Church

(Photo: Rink)

2 Anti-Gay Youths Ordered to Pay For Assaults

WASHINGTON—Two former high school students have been ordered to pay up to \$28,000 in damages to a gay man for violence directed toward the latter three years ago. Matthew P. Warring and Kevin M. Kinnahan, former students at St. John's College High School will have to pay \$20,000 in compensatory damages and up to \$4,000 each in punitive damages to William Edgar Hassell.

In 1983, Warring and Kinnahan befriended Hassell near a Washington gay bar, then forced

him to strip and lie on the ground in a deserted park. After that, the two men brutally slashed and beat Hassell while calling him a "dirty faggot."

Warring and Kinnahan told the court that they entered Cy's, a bar now defunct, knowing that it was patronized by gay people. They said they thought, however, that heterosexuals went there, too. Hassell said that Warring, then 18, began staring at him in a suggestive manner. Hassell said the youth winked at him, licked his lips and patted him on the buttocks, signs that the latter was sexually interested in him. When they got in Hassell's pickup truck, Warring placed his leg over Hassell's leg, a further suggestion that Warring was "cruis-

ing" him.

Later, Kinnahan and Warring physically damaged Hassell so much that—according to Hassell's attorney, Lyn Stout—his testicles grew to the size of grapefruits.

Defense attorneys claimed that Hassell "debased" Warring and Kinnahan by making sexual advances at them. Attorney Barry Stiller referred to Hassell as "a shark" stalking the "minnows."

Superior Court Judge William C. Gardner and his jury, however, didn't see it the same way. In addition to the \$20,000, a jury rendered a verdict of \$4,100 in punitive damages against Warring and \$4,300 against Kinnahan.

—The Washington Blade

Vexed by Rainbows

Our Gay Flag of Many Colors May Possess Ancient Magical Powers

by Paul Zomcheck

What more do most of us know about the gay flag than how ceremonious, auspicious, and colorful it looks flying over our parades and street fairs, or how it symbolically waves over a number of San Francisco neighborhoods?

Each friend who has come to visit me since I have lived in San Francisco has been curious about the multicolored banners adorning the Castro. I remember riding down that street the first time and inquiring about them, too. Unfortunately, the answer I have always given or received is an unenthusiastic "Oh, it's the gay flag."

The rainbow flag as a gay symbol has been around less than a decade, and is still evolving. But, rainbows on flags are not new; they have been used for hundreds of years by a variety of cultures.

You may be asking yourself where one seeking information about flags and their history finds such information. Well, you might try perusing an encyclopedia or other reference books at the library. But the best way to get information about flags, of course, is to contact a vexillologist: one who studies flags and their history.

Jim Ferrigan, manager of the Paramount Company's Flag Store of Polk Street, is a vexillologist and veritable walking encyclopedia on flags. His store is a bit disorganized: flags and paperwork are strewn everywhere. But his knowledge of flags far surpasses any importance of organization in his business.

Ferrigan is excited about learning just as much as possible about vexilla—flags or banners—and educating others about them. When I called to arrange an interview with him, Ferrigan was more than happy to reveal his vast historical knowledge of rainbows on flags.

As clever as we are, San Francisco gays didn't invent the rainbow flag. "The history of rainbows and flags goes back to various European flags as well as North American flag-like objects. Before the flag was brought to the New World by European explorers, the closest equivalent to the flag was one the Inca Indians had created with feathers they tied together forming the different hues of the rainbow. The Inca flag today is still a rainbow flag, although not always made up of the primary hues of the rainbow. The Aztecs also used a rainbow flag to represent their highest deity, Quetzalcoatl.

Early American history tells us Thomas Paine suggested the rainbow flag be used on the high seas as a symbol of nonbelligerence in the maritime compact of 1789. In 1907 the Pan-American Union used rainbow stripes on both sides of their flag as a symbol of union.

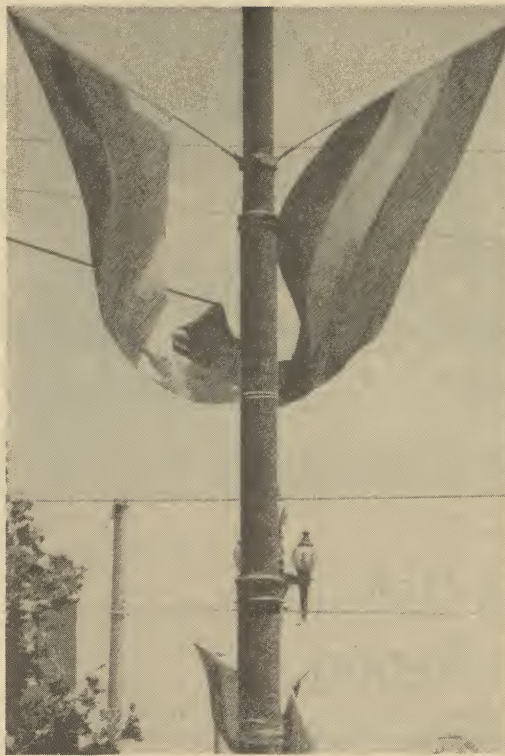
The Buddhist flag is also based on a rainbow, since the rainbow is the aura a person exudes when he has become enlightened. A rainbow appears on the Tibetan flag under the guise of a flaming jewel, as well.

The Cooperative Movement in Guyana, a loose-knit organization that stresses cooperation among all peoples to help solve man's problems, has used the rainbow flag since the early 1900s to symbolize unity with diversity. The movement says that all people are necessary to create the rainbow. If any color is removed from it, the rainbow is destroyed. Likewise, if you remove any single group from the family of man you destroy the integrity of that family, too. San

Francisco's gay rainbow flag is based somewhat on this principle, too.

"The use of rainbows by groups that are not part of the mainstream—rebels, or people looking for their freedoms or victory over some type of oppression—is quite common. So, the rainbow flag as a symbol of gay freedom is duly appropriate since it's a unique symbol of unity, yet diversity, and a symbol of victory and hope," says Ferrigan.

Historically, Joan of Arc waved a white flag with God blessing a lily and two angels in front of a rainbow, which she said was a



The Rainbow Flags

(Photo: Rink)

symbol of hope and victory. At her trial her prosecutors featured the flag and said she used it because it had magical powers. Joan claimed that her flag was forty times more powerful than her sword.

German peasant revolting against corrupt princes in the 30 Years War carried a rainbow flag, which today hangs in a German hospital.

But how did the rainbow flag come to represent gay freedom in San Francisco? It was Artie Bressan, a gay activist, who planted a seed in 1978 that the community could use a symbol. A gay artist, Gilbert Baker, designed and sewed the flags himself that year. In 1979, the Paramount Flag Company started producing them. The flags caught on and now embellish the facades of buildings throughout the city.

However, Ferrigan says the gay flag is still evolving and may go through a metamorphosis before it becomes a standard symbol for homosexuals throughout the world.

The first rainbow flag in San Francisco, actually, had eight stripes: pink, red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet, respectively. The eight colors represented the prismatic rainbow. The official flag used by the

(Continued on page 34)

ANAL SEX AND AIDS

After four years of studying thousands of cases of AIDS, the evidence is becoming increasingly clear: *anal sex is the number one cause of AIDS transmission in America.*

Several epidemiological studies conducted independently in several different cities, involving thousands of gay and bisexual men, have produced essentially the same finding—the principal difference between gay men who get AIDS, and gay men who don't get AIDS, is the amount and kind of Unsafe anal sex they have engaged in.

Unsafe anal sex includes anal intercourse without a condom, rimming, scat, fisting and fingering, and the sharing of dildoes and other insertive sex toys.

So our message is very simple—if we as a community are to survive this epidemic, unprotected anal

UNSAFE SEX PRACTICES

- Anal Intercourse Without Condom
- Rimming
- Fisting
- Blood Contact
- Sharing Sex Toys or Needles
- Semen or Urine in Mouth
- Vaginal Intercourse without Condom

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sex has to cease to be a part of our gay male lifestyles until a medical solution for AIDS is available. The risks are just too great for both tops and bottoms.

Condoms can help. They are capable of stopping the AIDS virus. Anal intercourse with a condom is still considered "possibly safe" because of the risk of condom breakage through misuse. (The major causes of condom breakage are air inside the condom, not enough lubrication, old or

mistreated condoms, or the use of oil-based lubricants.)

It takes practice to use condoms correctly. However, condoms are readily available, inexpensive, and when used properly, are good protection. Learn to use them. If you insist on anal sex, insist on condoms.

Let's protect one another. *Let's end Unsafe Sex in San Francisco until this epidemic is over.*



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Major funding for the educational programs of The San Francisco AIDS Foundation is provided by the San Francisco Department of Public Health.



Ed Meese doesn't get turned on by these films.

(Photo: Rink)

Researchers Debunk Meese Porn Report

Federal Panel Slanted Evidence, Testimony To Link Pornography, Crime, Say Critics

by George Mendenhall

Exposure to most pornography "bears some causal relationship to the level of sexual violence, sexual coercion, or unwanted sexual aggression." This is the most startling and controversial conclusion by United States Attorney General Edwin Meese's Commission on Pornography whose report will be released in July. Pres. Ronald Reagan requested the study in 1984 to counter a 1970 porn commission report that concluded that there was no evidence linking pornography to anti-social behavior and called for Congress to take anti-porn laws off the books.

The panel had difficulty defining what is pornographic and its conclusion was that almost anything—including a single nude person looking suggestive—was to be defined as obscene.

The final report will list 2,325 "pornographic" magazines, 725 books, and 2,370 film titles compiled from 16 adult book stores with the help of law enforcement personnel. It explores, in detail, some of the content of these materials—making the report itself erotic. This includes a 31-page transcript of a single book, *Tying Up Rebecca*, and detail as to its price and where it can be ordered. There is also explicit sexual dialogue and photographs plus detailed descriptions of scenes from adult movies.

The detailed pornography list was necessary, according to a commission staff member, Dee Kuhn. She said law enforcement officers would be able to recognize what is obscene because of the pornography in the report. However, they probably will not be the only ones buying the report, a predictable best seller for government printing outlets in major cities. Minimum age requirements for reading will be determined later.

Advance copies of the new report have been distributed early by the commission staff, possibly to counter a negative reaction from researchers. The report, leaked in advance of its July release date, makes sweeping demands for a national crackdown on pornography and is the culmination of hearings over a six-month period in six cities. It cost \$500,000 to produce the report.

The conclusion about a causal link is in direct conflict with a presidential commission's report on pornography in 1970. That report said there wasn't any discernible relationship between viewing or reading pornography and criminal activity. That panel also concluded Congress should repeal all legislation prohibiting the sale of sexually explicit material to adults. Ordered by Pres. Nixon, the study was filed and never acted upon.

RESEARCHERS REACT

Surgeon General Everett Koop called a June 20 meeting with 20 leading social scientists, including a half dozen of the principal researchers who testified for the commission. Some researchers understood that the results of this meeting would be incorporated into the commission's work. They now believe that the report was leaked early in order to avoid that happening.

Ted Khron, an aide to Koop, has defied Meese. He says that after the Koop session the group's conclusions should be made public. Khron urges, "We'll issue a report even if our conclusions differ from the commission's. It is a refreshing example of democracy in action."

The executive director for the commission, Allen Sears, responds that "Science does not have the complete answer." He explained that the staff, in forming its conclusion, is also relying on the testimony from law enforcement officers, members of the clergy, and victims of pornography.

Barrie Lynn, legal counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union, attended the commission's six hearings. He states that the commission went far beyond a scientific analysis. Scores of anti-pornography witnesses were called. He explains that they were allowed to say anything without being questioned. The few people allowed to speak about the positive effects of pornography were relegated to the end of sessions and were critically questioned. Some of these witnesses were even asked about their personal sexual habits and affiliations.

Lynn states that there was "an

inordinate focus on aberrant sexual practices and criminal activity designed to establish that sexually-explicit material leads to widespread 'victimization' of consumers." The commission, he reports, so broadly defined "pornography" that it included any description or depiction of sexual themes. Witnesses sometimes appeared behind screens to hide their identity, relating horror tales of how they had been abused. When it was not clear whether the abuse was related to pornography, some commission members tried to relate it for them.

Researchers who protested the violence and pornography link included Edward Donnerstein, a University of Wisconsin psychologist. He had concluded that when a group of male college students were extensively exposed to pornographic movies they developed a slightly more callous and demeaning toward women. Commission staffers drew the conclusion that such men were then prone to act out sexual violence. Donnerstein called the conclusion "bizarre."

Numerous other researchers protested, including Dr. Judith Becker. Although a commissioner herself, she said, "I have been working with sex offenders for ten years and have reviewed the scientific literature, and I don't think a causal link exists between pornography and sex crimes."

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Meese panel calls for new federal laws to require a mandatory one-year prison sentence for anyone convicted a second time on federal obscenity charges, to allow for prosecutors to seize money and other assets gained through violation of such laws, and permit judges to impose life-time probation for convicted child pornographers. The panel also wants a labor law that would make it an unfair business practice for an employer to hire people to participate in commercial sex performances, and a law prohibiting the use of performers under age 21 in "certain sexually explicit visual depictions."

The commission urges state and local officials to use laws against pandering (prostitution) to prosecute people involved in the distribution of obscene materials. An early test case involving such an arrest (for an adult film maker) is pending in the courts in Los Angeles.

The panel also requests the Federal Communications Commission to use its full regulatory powers against "obscene dial-a-porn telephone services." These services are now widely used, often by gay men who have turned to fantasy and masturbation because of the AIDS crisis.

The presidential report in 1970 could find no link between organized crime and the distribution of pornography but the new commission found that there was a relationship. The ACLU's Lynn said the commission's definition of "organized crime" was overly broad, allowing for an undocumented conclusion.

It was evident that Meese knew he would get the conclusions that he sought. He had appointed the panelists. The majority were long-time anti-porn fighters, including a Virginia prosecutor, Henry Hudson, who served as chair. Staff members worked closely with law enforcement personnel to form lists of witnesses and lists of porn magazines and video tapes. They wrote the final report with its conclusions after the commission had held its last meeting.

The three women commission
(Continued on page 28)

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THE CONNECTION

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Confidentiality Still Under Attack In Legislature

Worst Bills Defeated, Withdrawn this Session; But Struggle Remains In Opposing Others

by George Mendenhall

The tide has turned in Sacramento as many of the negative AIDS-related bills that were introduced have been improved, defeated, or dropped by their authors. The original 40 AIDS-related bills are now down to 24 and only five of those are being vigorously opposed by the full-time gay lobbyist in the capitol, Rand Martin.

San Francisco Legislators have five pending bills that Martin is attempting to bring to being to the governor's desk.

Senator Milton Marks (D-S.F.) co-authored three bills with Sen. David Roberti (D-L.A.). One would require the state to survey the feasibility of using MediCal or state Disability to pay health insurance premiums for persons with ARC or AIDS (SB-1327). Another would establish AIDS and ARC as disabilities if federal funding for care is provided (SF-2454). This bill would also assure that information about an AIDS patient be given only to health agencies or medical researchers.

Assemblyman Art Agnos (D-S.F.) joins with Mike Roos (D-L.A.) to require that each county make information, counseling and referral services available (AB-3440) and with John Vasconcellos to include hospice services under MediCal if no additional net program costs are incurred (AB-2449).

Vasconcellos, the San Jose legislator who heads the Assembly Ways and Means Committee, would encourage AIDS research by limiting the liability for manufacturers of a FDA-approved vaccine if a judge finds the vaccine to be dangerous (AB-4250). The bill would also set up a state fund to guarantee the purchase of a vaccine (\$20 million) and to subsidize clinical drug trials (\$6 million). In AB-3137, Vasconcellos would authorize the Director of Corrections to provide housing, care and treatment for prisoners with AIDS or ARC.

OPPOSE OR WATCH

Lobbyist Martin believes that there are no AIDS bills in the Assembly that demand vigorous opposition but two that should be watched closely. AB-3393 requires county hospitals to provide AIDS test to victims of rape or sexual assault and expands the legal term "great bodily injury" to include disease. AB-4015 would require a state survey of practices in diagnosis and treatment of prisoners.

Five Senate bills, Martin believes, should be opposed. Sen. John Doolittle has three of them. SB-1513 would require an AIDS antibody test of everyone sentenced to a state prison. SB-1542 would allow a parent to designate his or her blood to be used only by that person's child. SB-2447 would add a three-year sentence to any prison sentence for sex crimes if one knew he/she had AIDS or tested positive on an HTLV test.

Two additional Senate bills should also be opposed, he says. SB-1518 would require county health officers to notify emergency medical technicians that he or she has provided service to a person with a reportable disease. SB-2449 requires an antibody test of a patient suspected of having AIDS if a health worker suffers a needle stick from the patient. Nondiscrimination language is not included.

MORE GOOD BILLS

In addition to the bills offered by Bay Area legislators there are others that Martin believes would produce positive results.

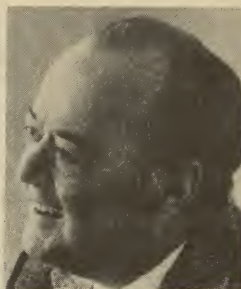
In the Assembly, three possible California cash awards totalling \$4 million would be given for the

discovery of an AIDS vaccine if AB-2404 becomes law. Drugs approved by the federal government for AIDS treatment would be available to MediCal patients (AB-3323). A minimum of four antibody test sites would be set up in Los Angeles (AB-3407).

Doolittle's original SB-1478 would have required all marriage license applicants to take the HTLV test, but it was amended so

that it now only requires county clerks to provide AIDS information brochures.

State Health Services would be required to define ARC and collect data on ARC cases and warning signs would have to be posted wherever nitrites (poppers) are sold if SB-1928 becomes law. SB-2192 would require schools to provide the proper health education to school employees when a



Sen. Milton Marks

student is diagnosed with AIDS or ARC. An AIDS Institute would be set up to coordinate AIDS programs and education if SB-2245 is adopted. SB-2484 would provide that no legal action can result from persons involved in a real estate transaction if they fail to reveal that the occupant of the property has the AIDS virus.

LOOKING BETTER

"Things have turned around considerably in the last month," Martin explains. "Some of the bad bills have been amended into less onerous language, others were dropped by authors or killed in committee. We are in better shape than we were but we are a long way from home," he says.

"Some legislators have made up their minds on AIDS—such as Doolittle—but I am learning

that we can make a major impact before the legislature adjourns on August 29. We need the fall months when the legislature is not in session to educate and prepare for next year," he added.

Martin assumed his post as interim lobbyist this month. He receives a modest salary from the new statewide Lobby for Individual Freedom and Equality (LIFE). The lobbyist would like to have his position become permanent and open a Sacramento office. Currently, he is operating out of his residence near the Capitol. If adequate funds are obtained by LIFE this will become a reality. One-time gifts and monthly pledges are being sought.

"There will be many more AIDS bills next year," Martin explains. "There will be some strong bills to weaken confidentiality and test disclosure law, and some of the worst bills defeated this year will be back in 1987. We will also have to fight the insurance industry. It wants to use the HTLV test as a qualifying criteria as to whether to insure someone. If you are over 30, unmarried, and have a stereotypically 'gay' employment, they may try to test you because you are suspected of being gay. Life and medical insurance could be difficult to obtain for some people, if the insurance companies have their way."

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- Rimming
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- Blood Contact
- Sharing Sex Toys or Needles
- Semen or Urine in Mouth
- Vaginal Intercourse Without Condom

Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights

cent of local AIDS cases. Blacks account for 5 percent. One percent of local PWAs are Asian. Let's work together to see that no one else in San Francisco is infected with this virus. Together, we can do it.

The only way we have of limiting this epidemic is through prevention.

If we as a community are going to survive this epidemic,

all of us need to eliminate Unsafe Sex and needle-sharing from our gay male lifestyles until a cure or vaccine for AIDS is available.

No one has ever died from the frustration of giving up a few Unsafe Sex practices. Far too many have died of AIDS.

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Films

(Continued from page 20)

with Showtime Cable Network to produce a television movie based on slain Sup. Harvey Milk's life. "It should go into production sometime this year, or next," said Epstein.

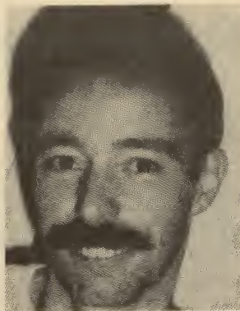
Vito Russo, author and film historian and the creator of the documentary *The Celluloid Closet*, told the *B.A.R.* "Usually what I'd say is I'm happy to be here and it'd be true, but I'm even happier to be here because it's the tenth anniversary. It's also the first time I've been to the city since my lover died in March. To me, this is where he is. And in a way this is my home, my adoptive home."

Michael Lumpkin, director of the festival, looked debonair in a

white dinner jacket and white boutonniere. "I feel great," said Lumpkin. "I can't believe we've been around for ten years and we're still here. I think it means we'll be around for a long time. We have more films and better films. Years ago, we had to show what was there, now we have lots of films from which to choose."

Tall, blond Wieland Speck, German director of *Westler—East of the Wall* was able to attend the festival with a grant from the Goethe Institute in San Francisco. "This is the fourth film I've made with gay characters," said Wieland. "Sure, I'm a gay filmmaker. I made my first film in San Francisco, *David, Montgomery and I* in 1980. It was shown at the 1982 festival."

From a two-day showing of film shorts, the gay festival has grown to the current ten-day extravagan-



Vito Russo

(Photo: Rink)

za of first-rate lesbian and gay feature films. The Castro Theatre movie palace has never seen better days than the annual openings of the Lesbian and Gay Film Festival.

Porn

(Continued from page 26)

members signed the report but then publicly attacked the report. They charged there were false conclusions and chided the staff for deleting all materials which pointed to the positive effects of pornography.

Two women issued a dissenting statement, claiming "No self-respecting investigator would accept conclusions based on such a study. Efforts to tease the current data into proof of a causal link between pornography and sexual crimes simply cannot be accepted." They agreed with the

ACLU that "many of the visuals, both print and video, shown during the hearings were skewed to the very violent and extremely degrading." The women pleaded that the materials distorted what pornography is and thus the commission's judgement.

Playboy and *Penthouse* magazines and The American Booksellers Association have filed a federal suit against Meese and his commission, charging them with illegally attempting to suppress sexually explicit magazines. In May, the commission informed scores of retail outlets that they would be listed as

distributors of pornography in the coming final report.

Although many of the outlets only had *Playboy*, *Penthouse*, and *Forum* magazines—not legally considered pornographic—they reacted immediately. Thousands of retail outlets, fearful of being branded as "porno outlets," dropped the publications. Thrifty Drugs took magazines off the shelves in their 167 Northern California outlets. 7-Eleven eliminated them from the racks in 4,500 stores. The reaction was almost instant. In Ohio, close to 4,000 stores removed adult magazines from stands.

AIDS

(Continued from page 2)

Specifically, there has been a "substantial reduction" in the practice of anal sex without a condom, said Winkelstein.

"Many men in San Francisco will not become infected with the AIDS virus because so many have reduced their number of sexual partners and practice of unsafe sex—particularly, unprotected receptive anal-genital contact," Winkelstein said.

"Such changes in sexual behavior are vital because each repeated exposure to the virus increases a person's chance of being infected, Winkelstein said.

The UC Berkeley study is the largest of its kind in the world. It involves 1,000 men—800 gay subjects and 200 straight men in a "control group." The subjects were randomly recruited from 19 census tracts in San Francisco which have had the heaviest concentration of gay population.

David Lyman, a gay doctor who heads the Gay Men's Health Study, said, "The word had gotten out: People have radically altered their sexual patterns and this has had a profound effect on the rate of AIDS infection."

The \$3 million study, funded by the federal government, began in 1984. It follows in depth the sexual behaviors and medical histories of the 1,000 men. This includes periodic blood tests for antibodies to the AIDS virus.

The goal is to identify who gets AIDS and why. The hope is to provide practical information on how to avoid AIDS infection. The study is also designed to discover how to avoid becoming ill from AIDS once a subject is infected. For this reason, researchers are focusing on co-factors which may play a key role in helping the AIDS infection develop into a full-blown case of AIDS.

One aspect of the study is the assessment of risks for various sexual behaviors. A paper on this topic soon will be published in a national medical journal.

Lyman said the study clearly indicates that anal sex without a condom is extremely dangerous. The receptive partner in unprotected anal intercourse has a 10 percent chance of being infected with AIDS just from one exchange.

On the other hand, the study indicates that oral sex is not dangerous in terms of spreading the AIDS virus. "We have not been able to show that oral sex is at all likely to spread the virus," Lyman said. "I don't believe that oral sex is all that unsafe."

Oral sex should remain categorized as "possibly unsafe," however, Lyman said. That is because diseases can be spread through oral sex, which may be co-factors in developing AIDS. One such infection is cytomegalovirus (CMV).

For a person who is carrying the AIDS virus, a new exposure to CMV—caused by oral sex—may help to activate the latent AIDS virus, Lyman said.

If partners in oral sex stop before ejaculation, almost all of that danger is eliminated.

The massive study is debunking some widely reported myths about AIDS. Most importantly, it indicates that AIDS infection is not so widespread as reported.

Daily newspapers in San Francisco continue to report that "more than two-thirds of gay men in San Francisco" are infected with the AIDS virus. This finding, first announced in a banner headline in the *San Francisco Examiner* in July 1984, was based on a much smaller study.

That study was based on subjects recruited from the city VD clinic and included only gay men who had had hepatitis. For that reason, this subgroup was not a valid representation of infection among the total San Francisco gay population.

A second myth being debunked by the study is that there is an underlying immune deficiency among gay men. Lyman said that the UC study, which includes straight male controls, shows

"absolutely no difference in underlying immune system functions between the straights and the gay men who have not been infected with the AIDS virus."

A third myth being debunked is that AIDS can be casually or even not-so-casually spread. Not one of the 200 straight men controls has become infected with the AIDS virus—even though all the straight subjects live in the most heavily populated gay neighborhoods in San Francisco.

Still, said Lyman, it will take time for valid data to chase away the scare stories. The doctor said he was appalled when he recently visited an AIDS patient at UCLA Medical Center. There, people with AIDS are served meals on paper trays—and cafeteria delivery personnel leave the trays at the door, rather than delivering it bedside, as they do for other patients.

Housing for Jocks

Gay Games organizers have issued an urgent appeal for volunteers to house athletes this August.

"Housing is desperately needed for 2,000 athletes from outside the Bay Area who will not be able to stay in hotels," said housing director Susan Quillan.

"It is an exciting way to help a gay person from another city. We get requests from athletes every day who state that they cannot attend the Games if there is no housing. Please do your part—open your hearts and your homes to athletes visiting San Francisco."

Most athletes will need housing from Friday, Aug. 8 through Monday, Aug. 18. To volunteer, contact the Gay Games office at (415) 861-8282 or drop by at 526 Castro Street.

Class Society

The Comstock Is The Place To Come Out In Elegance

by Will Snyder

John Schmidt knows what getting on the cover of *People* magazine can mean. And it isn't being the subject of gossip-mongers in checkout lines at Safeways, either.

When Schmidt was on the cover of *People* as an openly gay businessman, he said he came out of the closet. When this happened, he no longer felt completely comfortable going to the private clubs he frequented for a relaxing drink or a quiet game of cribbage.

Thus, an idea was born. Schmidt admits he had reservations that a private club for gay men and lesbians could work. But now, the president of Atlas Savings and Loan Association is devoting up to 18 hours a day to the opening of the Comstock.

The Comstock is a beautifully restored, 105-year-old Victorian located at 1409 Sutter St. The building contains three stories of some of the most elegant art work, furniture, and artifacts in San Francisco. Schmidt is proud of the design because the Comstock was the last work of the late famed designer, Billy Gaylord, who died last year.

"I remember this Flemish tapestry that Billy saw in New York," Schmidt recalled. "He called me up and said, 'We've got to have this. It goes back to the 15th century.'"

That tapestry is in one of the front rooms of the Comstock, but it isn't the only legacy of Billy Gaylord. He also purchased six living room chairs from a Mission Street store, which matched the half dozen he gave to Mayor Dianne Feinstein before he died. Each room is filled with beautiful trim and appropriate paintings or prints. Much of the furniture is either American or British antique furniture.

Gaylord, of course, never lived to see his work at the Comstock. But Schmidt said Gaylord had a special vision to make sure the mansion's work was completed the way he would have wanted it to be finished.

"When he knew he was going to die from leukemia," Schmidt said of Gaylord, "he came to me with this big book with all the plans of his designs. I told him he was going to make it, to lick his disease, but he said, 'You can never tell, John.' And, he was right.

"No, he not only gave that book to me," Schmidt added, "but he also introduced me to Peter Hennessey, a great designer in his own right, who continued Billy's work."

It is this devotion to class which Schmidt hopes will make the Comstock a posh place for gay and lesbian businesspeople. People who join what will soon be a private club (it's open to the public for a limited amount of time) will certainly get their money's worth. Not only will they have drawing rooms filled with beautiful paintings and antiques, but also a soon-to-be-completed gym, three bars, and five dining rooms.

Marin Demos

The gay and lesbian significant interest group of the Marin County Democratic Club will meet with Joanna Willmann, Democratic candidate for State Assembly, Thursday evening, June 26, in San Rafael. Please call 459-3943 for details. ●



John Schmidt (r.) and Joe Ellis in front of a 15th Century Flemish tapestry (Photo: Rink)

At first, Schmidt wasn't totally receptive to what later became the Comstock because friends of his such as Bill Ridenhauer and James Hughes were interested in selling memberships in the form of timeshares. "When they decided that a club with private membership was the way to go, that's when I got devoted to the concept."

Schmidt said the Victorian was leased from a realty company in October of 1984. Renovation began in April of the following year. Since then, Schmidt has been a workaholic, putting in long hours, looking over most of

the details of what he pictures as the ideal posh relaxation place for gay men and lesbians.

But he's also quick to praise others who have devoted long hours to the Comstock. Hennessey, sound engineer Eric Pariser, and lighting engineer Lee Boyac were singled out by Schmidt.

Schmidt said he could not yet announce what the fees for joining the Comstock will be, other than to say that there would be an initiation fee and a refundable security deposit. Inquiries should be sent to 1409 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94109. ●



Billy Gaylord (Photo: Rink)

AIDS ANTIBODY TESTING

Free, Anonymous Test Program Continues in San Francisco

New funding will extend the anonymous AIDS antibody testing program offered by the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

Without revealing your name or identity, you can make an appointment to learn more about the test by telephoning 621-4858. T-Th, 3-9 p.m.; F, 12-5 p.m.; Sat 8 a.m.-5 p.m. MAKING AN APPOINTMENT DOES NOT COMMIT YOU TO TAKING THE TEST. After hearing a brief presentation at the test site you will have a chance to ask questions. You may then leave or stay to take the test.

The AIDS antibody test detects the presence of antibodies to the AIDS virus by using a simple blood test. **This is not a test for AIDS.** The test does NOT show if you have AIDS or an AIDS Related Condition (ARC), nor can it tell if you will develop AIDS or ARC in the future. **THE TEST DOES SHOW IF YOU HAVE BEEN INFECTED WITH THE VIRUS WHICH CAN CAUSE AIDS.**

Although the test is available at other locations, your anonymity is guaranteed if you take the test at an Alternative Test Site. You will receive your test results at the San Francisco Alternative Test Sites without revealing your identity or losing your privacy. Post-test consulting and referrals are available.

Your decision whether or not to take the test is a difficult one. The San Francisco AIDS Foundation is not recommending that you either take or not take the test. **YOU MUST DECIDE FOR YOURSELF.** We want to provide you with information that will help you make the decision that is right for you.

If you want general information about AIDS or the AIDS antibody test, telephone the San Francisco AIDS Foundation HOTLINE (863-AIDS, 9-9 M-F, 11-5 S-Su). If you want to make an appointment at an Alternative Test Site for education or testing, call 621-4858 T-Th, 3-9 p.m.; F, 12-5 p.m.; Sat, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.



TDD: 621-5106

Funding for this message provided by the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

Out of the Ghetto

Pat Norman Believes in Building Coalitions, Not Perpetuating Walls

by Ray O'Loughlin

It's not a political movement, she says, but those who know Pat Norman's campaign for San Francisco Supervisor say it sure feels like one. In her first foray into city electioneering in 1984, Norman surprised politicians by garnering 56,000 votes for her progressive, coalition-minded politics. Now she's in the race again. And in it to win.

What she offers is not a movement, she says, but a politics that "takes a look at the vision for tomorrow—what do we want to have in San Francisco?"

Norman distinguishes her politics from the usual brand practiced in San Francisco, saying hers is "not connected to all the old boy networks, a politics not constantly maneuvering to overwhelm the people of San Francisco in order to promote the agendas of people from outside the city. We have to have concern for those who live and work here and intend to stay here."

Having grown up in New York City's infamous Bedford-Stuyvesant projects, Norman raised a family of four in various locales from Pennsylvania to Texas and California while she worked on a degree in psychology. At 46, she is twice a grandmother.

For the last 14 years, Norman has been employed at San Francisco's Department of Public Health. She is currently coordinator of Gay and Lesbian Health Services for the department.

"I believe we're in the midst of a return to conservative politics in the U.S. as well as in this city," says Norman. "It's necessary to turn around that trend."

She adds that the trend is particularly dangerous for sexual

minorities. "It's important at the local level here in San Francisco to keep a progressive agenda," she told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

"It's time to say 'enough.' We want people who are concerned about our issues. We want people to deal with the problems we face with affordable housing, good transportation, expansion of human services," says Norman.

The biggest threat to San Francisco and its minority communities, according to Pat Norman, is Manhattanization—overdevelopment of the city. She finds many gay people unconcerned about that. "Many people are not aware that they are so vulnerable to not being able to stay here. The housing crisis affects gay and lesbian people. Many have had to

move out of the city because they can't afford to live here even though they work here," she says.

Her concern, she says, is "to keep the kind of community we have here."

How does she propose to do that?

"Nobody in any one position is going to fix it all," says Norman. "It'll take a coming together between communities with more communication between all of us who have commonalities."

That's not happening, she says, even though the idea is paid lip-service respect. "People use each community to get one or two single issues passed but not to generate genuine concern. That has to change."



Pat Norman

(Photo: Rink)

Her being elected to the Board of Supervisors is a step in that direction, says the candidate. "If more people who think that way were on the board, it'd be easier to get communities to understand what politics is." The board can do "as much as the community will allow it to do," she says, especially in "setting up a way of communicating that is different from how it is now."

She wants an issue-oriented campaign, says Norman, "so that people understand what is happening here," adding, "Many people look around and see how beautiful the city is and say 'I'm here and it's wonderful.'"

Norman does not hesitate to say that the gay and lesbian community should overcome its own sense of isolation and begin to reach out to other communities. "I support us beginning to look at how we might be more useful to each other," says Norman. "There comes a point when we have to actually work toward some kind of a goal of integrating."

Her experience has been that non-gay progressive groups are now open to alliances with gays in which gay concerns become a part of the main agenda.

"The only way we're going to move this [gay] movement is with other people working with us. And that means we'll have to work with them."

She fears the gay community undercutting itself by becoming

a "single-issue community." "I do believe the community still promotes itself as needing to be a single-issue community. Since we're not single-issue human beings, it's not possible for me to support such a thing."

She cites issues which the gay community shares with others, such as the problems of the homeless, especially youth, and military spending taking money away from health care and research for AIDS.

"It comes down to the fact that we have real reasons to be involved in lots of different community concerns," says Norman. "It's our right to do so and it helps other people understand that we are not ghettoized and limited."

A big part of the battle, according to Norman, is against the lingering enemy of internalized homophobia.

"A lot of people are still unsure about whether or not people need to be out," she says. "Everybody should be out; that's the only way we're going to make change. We need to make a clear statement that we are everywhere and we are proud to be who we are."

As for the supervisorial election this November, Norman offered this advice to voters. "We have to take responsibility in voting in people who are helpful to this community and useful to all of us. Again, I'm pushing for a vision, for understanding greater needs that we are responsible for and participate in." ●

ACTOR BURT LANCASTER REMINDS YOU...



**"THINK BEFORE YOU ACT—
DON'T GET AIDS!"**



PHOTOGRAPHY BY: DANIEL ADAMS PRODUCED BY: MICHAEL JOHN HORNE GRAPHICS BY: CHRIS MCALIFFE

Nassaney to Speak At Healing Service



Louis Nassaney

Louis Nassaney, student of Louise Hay and fourth runner-up in the Mr. Superman contest of Southern California, will tell his remarkable story of AIDS self-healing at the next Metaphysical Alliance AIDS Healing Service, Monday, June 20. The service will be held at the Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco, 150 Eureka Street, at 6:30 p.m.

This eighth in a series of monthly services will include music, meditation and readings from written works on healing with healing inspiration for all. ●

DEATHS

David R. Lynch

David Lynch, 41, died of AIDS on June 16. He grew up in Maplewood, NJ and Greenfield, IN. David earned a Bachelor's degree in Architecture from the University of Cincinnati, and a Masters in Landscape Architecture from UC/Berkeley. David moved to San Francisco in 1971 from Boston where he worked for the Boston Redevelopment Authority.



In San Francisco, David pursued his lifelong love of architecture as an employee of the City for 11 years. He worked for the Department of City Planning, the Recreation & Parks Department, and private clients. David cared deeply about the City and influenced its design in his position as a planning coordinator for the City Planning Department. According to planners in the department, his work was basically the redesign of projects, working with developers, architects, and the neighborhoods, to make projects fit into the fabric of City architecture. He also designed parks while with the Parks Department.

David loved the High Sierra and nude beaches. He was an avid runner, and bicyclist. He was a member of the San Francisco Hiking Club, Front-Runners, and the California Native Plant Society, among other organizations. David was spiritual, magical, impish, and a nonconformist—a free spirit. He loved San Francisco and found here a group of wonderful and caring friends. We will all miss him. Memorials may be given in his name to: the Sempervirens Fund, Drawer BE, Los Altos, CA 94023 or The Open Hand, Trinity Episcopal Church, 1668 Bush St., San Francisco 94109. A memorial gathering will be held in a City park on July 13.

Tommy Amato

Tommy Amato died in San Francisco on June 6. He was a native of New York, age 39. He lived in California since 1979. He is the dearly beloved

son of Ann and Sal (Toto) and brother Lenny Amato, all of New York.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Friday, June 20, 1986 at St. Aloysius Church in Ridgewood, Queens.

Friends are invited to attend a memorial service on June 30, 1986 at 7 p.m. at Most Holy Redeemer Church, corner of Diamond Street and 18th Street in San Francisco.

Larry W. Swartz

Larry Wayne Swartz died in San Francisco on June 9. He was a respected and beloved friend to many. He is survived by his Mother, Marjorie and many loving relatives in Battle Creek, MI. where burial services were held. He will always be remembered, especially by his lover, Michael Bradshaw.



Memorial services will be held at Most Holy Redeemer Church, 100 Diamond St., San Francisco, on Saturday, July 12, 1986 at 1 p.m.

Please make memorials to the S.F. AIDS Foundation, 333 Valencia St., S.F., 94103 or Shanti Project 890 Hayes St., San Francisco 94117.

Maurice Soucy

Like a crocus blossoms from beneath the precipitate snow, in its fruitful time.

Our beloved friend entered the Blooming Garden of Glory on June 17 following a courageous confrontation with PCP.

Maurice was victorious in his conquest of Eternal Life over disease. We celebrate his victory and are given courage by his stamina and sense of humor...

Until we meet again in unification: Patrick, Terry, Mitch, the Lynn Family together with all Maurice's friends and acquaintances... Amen.

Any donations to the S.F. AIDS Food Bank would be appreciated. In

lieu of traditional ceremony a Celebration of Life gathering will be held on Gay Day, June 29 at 3 p.m. at the Polk Gulch Saloon.

Rickey Clem

Rick Clem passed away peacefully in his sleep on June 12 in Dallas. He was 34. We lost our dear friend to AIDS-related leukemia.



Rick was born in Atlanta on Sept. 14, 1952. He grew up in Seagoville, Tx. After being stationed at Schofield Barracks with the Army Corps of Engineers in Hawaii for several years, Rick made his home in San Francisco. Here, he lived on 18th Street.

He is best remembered walking his little chihuahua, "Brandy," down Castro Street.

Rick was a bartender at the 527 Club and later at the Presidio Officers Club. Later, he moved back to Seagoville where he worked for the Dallas School District.

Rickey is survived by his loving mother and father, Thelma and Harold, and a large family of friends.

For information, Call Rick Riendeau at 648-4480. All memorial donations should be sent to the Cancer Society.

Ricky Caimi

Ricky Caimi, previous resident of San Francisco, died in his home in San Diego on June 18 of AIDS. Memorial services will be held at Metropolitan Community Church in San Diego on June 28 at 4 p.m.

Memorial donations may be made to Veterans Administration Volunteer Services ARV Fund, 3350 LaJolla Village Drive, San Diego, CA 92161.

Any old friends of Ricky's are invited to call me, Glenn Jordan, for further information at 495-8877 (daytime) or 552-1134 (evenings).

months. He is wasting the community's time in pointless meetings."

Many times, said Payne, the point had been made to Tiano how injurious the Fabian Bridges show was to the gay community. "Each time he has said that if he had it to do over gain he would do the same thing. He would show it. It's clear to me, therefore, that Tony Tiano should be removed as general manager of KQED and replaced with someone who is sensitive to the needs of the community he claims to be serving," said Payne.

C. Linebarger

AIDS.

In 1985, the church directed local Episcopal churches to work on many areas of education, homophobia, and fear surrounding the disease. Earlier this year, the Parsonage acted as the host for a national conference on AIDS for the Episcopal Church.

Tull, who has performed many duties for the Parsonage, left last week to attend a World Council of Churches conference on AIDS. The conference will set the agenda for a larger conference to be held in the next year. He will be joined by representatives from Holland, the West Indies, Trinidad, England, Switzerland, and many African countries.

At 10 a.m. next Sunday, the parsonage will join Integrity, the gay Episcopal group, for a Parade Eucharist at the parade formation site at Spear and Folsom Streets.

working part of the church. Since then, several hundred people have participated in the commissioning services.

Swing said when the Parsonage opened in 1981, no one was aware of the impending AIDS crisis. He credited the Parsonage for helping the national Episcopal Church to act swiftly about

KQED

(Continued from page 7)

ing."

At the end of the session, Tiano made two statements which left many of those present wondering what had been accomplished by the Advisory Panel forum. "I have not made the decision to take the *Christian Science Monitor* off the air," said the president of KQED. "I feel it's more important to leave it on the air. I don't know what else to say about it."

Swing Helps The Parsonage Celebrate

by Allen White

The Parsonage, the outreach of the Episcopal Church to the gay community, celebrated its fifth anniversary last week with a Mass at Grace Cathedral. Bishop William Swing presided at the event which included the commissioning of parsons. Tom Tull, past Parsonage co-chair who is now in Geneva, Switzerland representing the organization at an AIDS conference, also spoke.

At the Grace Cathedral Service, Swing commissioned 12 parsons to serve at the Parsonage. The first commissioning was held October 26, 1981.

At that time, the bishop's action was viewed as highly controversial. The service represents the acknowledgement of gay men and lesbians and makes them a

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BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

Reaching for the Stars

Ministry of Light Illuminates Marin County

by Steve Warren

Okay, let's get the Marin jokes out of the way first. God is no more mellow in the North Bay than anywhere else, they don't hold church in a hot tub, and no one has ever refused communion because of being a wine snob.

The executive director of Marin County's Ministry of Light, Rev. Jane Adams Spahr, is one of those people who can light up a room by entering it—and when she smiles, you need sunglasses to shield your soul as well as your eyes.

Janie—as she is known to everyone who encounters her—was ordained by the Presbyterian Church in 1976. In 1980 she resigned from her position with the Council of Oakland Presbyterian Churches out of fear that the council would dissolve if she didn't, so hard had they been hit by the news that she was a lesbian.

After a few months of "questioning the call I'd felt from the age of 14"—a natural reaction in such cases, Spahr was invited to preach at the Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco. So instantaneous was the rapport that the church offered her an associate pastorship the next day. She started the job in July 1980 and stayed until late 1982.

"In those two and a half years I felt my spirituality and sexuality coming together," Spahr says. It was a time of healing and personal growth, of ministering and being ministered to, of locking the closet door and throwing away the key. "I learned to preach from my guts and pray that way too."

Yet she never severed her ties with the Presbyterians, feeling "a need to minister to the mainline denomination. I'm thinking of so many people who are so gifted who have left the church, and it's a damn, damn shame."

Spahr's future with MCC, had

she chosen to stay, would have been limitless and relatively effortless. "Whenever I start feeling too comfortable somewhere," she says, "I know it's time to move on."

Finally a Presbyterian group made her an offer she couldn't refuse. A steering committee had formed in 1981 with members of several Presbyterian churches who felt the need for "a non-judgemental ministry with lesbian and gay people, their families and friends as well as education and dialogue with the community." In 1982 they obtained a \$15,000 grant to develop such a ministry.

Three Marin County churches—St Andrew Presbyterian in Marin City, Christ Presbyterian in Terra Linda, and Sausalito Presbyterian—founded the Ministry of Light (MOL) in conjunction with Presbyterians for Lesbian/Gay Concerns, Pacific Region. They hired Rev. Jane Spahr as their executive director.

As Janie explains it, MOL is "an outreach ministry, not a church," serving a dual purpose: "to be with the gay and lesbian community and to educate churches and synagogues."

MOL provides counseling and helps establish support groups for gay men and lesbians and



Rev. Jane Spahr
(Photo: S. Warren)

their families. In effect they serve as a clearing house for organizations serving our community in Marin County, referring people to existing groups or forming new ones when the need is great enough.

For instance, a women's support group meets twice a month. Not all the members are lesbian, nor are they all Christian. "If we celebrate Christmas and Advent," Janie says, "we celebrate the Winter Solstice as well."

There are also groups of lesbian and gay parents, lesbian and gay youth, youths whose parents are lesbian or gay, and parents and friends of lesbians and gays. The last is now affiliated with the national PFLAG organization.

"When AIDS came along," Spahr says, "that became our first priority." It was through MOL that the Marin AIDS Support Network was formed. "We keep the pulse of the needs of the gay and lesbian community."

Representatives of all existing gay-related groups in the county meet for lunch once a month to facilitate communication. "We have created a lot of networking in Marin!"

Religion is not shoved down anyone's throat by Ministry of Light, but much of the counseling takes place in a church because the MOL office is in Westminister Presbyterian in Tiburon. "It shows them the church really cares," Janie says. "The people who come in may never go to church again, but their spirituality is beautiful, whatever it is." If someone feels uncomfortable about entering a church they can meet outside in a bayview setting.

At the other extreme, if the counselee is looking for a church to attend as an open gay man or lesbian, Spahr refers them to MCC or one of the five or six supportive, accepting mainstream churches.

Besides showing that the church cares, Janie holds meetings and counseling sessions on church property "to make the church realize we're here, helping them fulfill the educational aspect of MOL's mission."

Because Marin gays tend to be more closeted than those in the city, maintaining visibility is an ongoing problem. "More of us have to feel comfortable and come out," Spahr says, "and that's just beginning to happen here."

Beginnings are what Ministry of Light is about, and Janie feels they've only scratched the surface in four years. "There's so much more to do," she says. "I feel we're just beginning to be there in a bigger way."

You can write to Ministry of Light at 240 Tiburon Blvd., Tiburon, CA 94920, or call 381-4196.

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Study Finds Physicians Biased

A recent study published in the January, 1986 issue of *The Western Journal of Medicine* shows significant negative attitudes among physicians toward homosexuality.

A research team consisting of faculty from three San Diego colleges and universities conducted the study using questionnaires distributed to the entire membership of the San Diego County Medical Society. The questionnaire, separating respondents by the area of medical specialty, asked how physicians felt toward gay applicants to medical school, homosexuals seeking residency training, referrals to gay physicians, and treatment of gay patients.

When asked if a "highly qualified homosexual applicant" should be admitted to medical school, 29.7 percent of the physicians responded negatively. Differences among areas of specialty on this item were significant. Forty-nine percent of orthopedic surgeons were opposed, while only 9.2 percent of psychiatrists were opposed.

In answer to another survey question, gay physicians would find the most opposition if they sought residency training in pediatrics (45 percent) or psychiatry (39 percent). It is interesting to note, however, that pediatricians and psychiatrists them-

selves did not share this negative view of homosexuals entering their own fields of specialty. Only 1.6 percent of psychiatrists would discourage residency in their own field.

Referrals to openly gay physicians would be discontinued by substantial numbers of responding physicians. According to the study, more than 40 percent would discontinue referrals to homosexual pediatricians and psychiatrists, a quarter to general surgeons, and nearly a fifth to radiation therapists. The smallest loss of referrals would be from psychiatrists, pediatricians, and internists.

East Bay Assistance Fund Reorganized

COUNTENANCE COMMUNIQUE (An Up-Dating Nose?)

In 1983-84, a series of auctions presented by Ed Paulson and Little Mother at various gay bars in Hayward and Oakland raised a considerable amount of funds. The purpose of the fundraising was to assist those people with AIDS residing in the Hayward/Oakland area who were in need of emergency financial assistance.

An original committee to oversee the allocation of these funds was established with four people from Hayward and two people from Oakland. A seventh person attended the monthly meetings, a representative from Pacific Center in Berkeley, strictly as a presenter of applications from people with AIDS who needed assistance. At this time it was decided to name this committee the East Bay AIDS Fund, and it functioned under this name for over nearly year.

Because of problems of housing and "umbrella-ing" the large sum of money—a dilemma much too lengthy to pursue here—the entire amount was placed within the account of the San Francisco Tavern Guild Foundation. A \$5,000 deposit was made to the Godfather Fund so that allocation of funds could be expedited. Timing and communication difficulties made this effort less than satisfactory, but at that time there was no alternative.

Internal differences within the

committee as to just what should be done with the remaining funds resulted in the resignation of two of the original committee members from Hayward. Personal problems from another committee member demanded his resignation. The remaining cabinet felt it necessary to continue with the original strategies as expressed by the two who were responsible for the auctions.

A new committee was formed, consisting of an MCC pastor, a teacher, a businessman, a lawyer, a medical representative from Fairmont Hospital, and a person with AIDS. That council thought it best to alter the committee's name to the East Bay Assistance Fund, since that was its function—assisting. A by-laws packet was initiated and all necessary paper work for becoming a tax-free entity was prepared and delivered to Sacramento. Arrangements were made to transfer all remaining monies from the SFTGF Godfather Fund to the committee's own checking/savings account at an established savings and loan in Oakland.

After several months of negotiating, the foregoing was successfully accomplished. The East Bay Assistance Fund wishes to take this public opportunity to thank the SFTGF Godfather Fund, Jim Bonko, Paul Seidler, and all the others who made it possible for EBAF to become established. Without their help, none of the committee's assistance would have been possible.

Since its original conception, the committee has answered 51 requests for assistance (rent, food, utilities, funeral expenses, insurance premiums, etc.), all from people with AIDS in the Hayward/Oakland/San Leandro/Castro Valley area. All cases are verified with a doctor's statement, and no monies are paid directly to the one requesting assistance. Granted requests are paid directly to landlords, utility companies, insurance companies, grocery stores, etc.

These requests total in excess of \$13,092.85. In addition, two large and extremely important expenditures were 1) \$2,100 for telephone services to Fairmont Hospital AIDS ward, and 2) \$3,172.31 for televisions in the Fairmont Hospital AIDS ward.

Since its forming, the EBAF committee reluctantly found it necessary to turn down only three requests, simply because they did not fit the criteria under which the committee functions.

Everyone who participated in the auctions and made generous donations must be justifiably proud that the monies are being used for the purpose for which they were raised. The East Bay Assistance Fund wishes to thank all who made it possible to do the deeds that have been accomplished—and need to be accomplished.

East Bay Assistance Fund holds its meetings on the third Monday of each month, at 7 p.m. in the Board Room of Fairmont

Hospital in San Leandro. The meetings are open, and interested persons are cordially invited to attend. It must be noted, however, that all requests for funds remain confidential.

KIPA HOU MAI! (A "Mai Hilaria" Nose?)

I can't exactly put my finger on why, but when I saw Revol's Luau decorations I immediately thought of the Boom Boom Room in Laguna Beach. Perhaps it was the fish nets and straw mats, but I really don't know.

The festivities last Sunday, June 22, started with a "Polynesian" brunch special of ham and pineapple omelet, while the bar was churning out such favorites as Chi Chis, Pina Coladas, Mai Tais, Blue Mahus, Seabreezes, etc. A "tropical" feeling was sustained throughout the afternoon and evening with the ever-present aloha shirts, shorts, and muumuus. At selected intervals, raffle tickets were passed out (manawahi!); and, believe me, Revol spared no expenses on the prizes. As a matter of fact there were no expenses for the prizes! Some were old; some, new; some borrowed, some blue; some perhaps even five-finger discounted!

OMNIUM-GATHERUM (A Medley Nose)

Something for everyone, if you will, coming up on the three-day Fourth of July weekend. (Listed in order as they were made known to me.)

The Town & Country celebrates its big third anniversary all three days: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, July 4, 5, 6. It wouldn't surprise me if the T&C Dollies made an appearance at least a couple of those days! I suspect that there will be some fabulous raffle prizes, too. Check with the T&C for further details.

Maranatha MCC, 22577 Bayview, Hayward, celebrates its fifth anniversary on the Fourth. Rev. Jodi Safier, pastor, invites all to join together in this divine and spiritual sanctification. Call 881-5649 for all the details.

The Spoiled Brat goes non-stop 'round the clock over the three-day weekend, with disco all night(s) long. Plan on a swim/tan/dance/sleep/party special. Three days and three nights at the Hayward Travel Lodge for swim and pool parties, with the Brat operating a full bar and the Lodge for your tanning enjoyment all day; then disco all night at the Brat. The \$50 total (per person, double occupancy) includes: continental breakfasts, poolside barbecues Friday and Saturday evenings; 10 oz. filet mignon dinner at the Brat Sunday evening; plus your room for the weekend! Reservation forms available only at the Brat, and must be prepaid by this Sunday evening, June 29.

Next week: my visit to our newest, the Fickle Fox, and A Night of Stars dedicated to Princess Royale Starr (Doug Bohrer). By the by, it's not such a coincidence that the name rings familiar with a now-closed establishment in San Francisco!

Why is it that the first 90 percent of the job takes 10 percent of the time, and the last 10 percent of the job takes the other 90 percent? Why should I smile? Love, Nez.



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Jim Chambers (l.) receives award from Tom Brougham

(Photo: M. Brownstein)

E. Bay Club Celebrates 4 Years

Approximately 50 stalwarts of the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club gathered at the Mandarin Garden Restaurant in Berkeley Sunday, June 8, to celebrate the fourth anniversary of the club's founding. The event was a celebration and not a fundraiser. Guests of club members were welcome, but the event was principally a "family" occasion for the dependable workers in the club to enjoy each other's company, and no effort was made to attract either politicians or financiers.

Armand Boulay, founding

president of the Club, and his successor, Tom Brougham, were both present.

A surprise award was made to club member Jim Chambers for Outstanding Service to the Community in 1986. He was awarded a brass and walnut plaque. Chambers has been prominent in the club for his AIDS work in Alameda County, having served as chair of EBARO, the East Bay AIDS Resources Organization, and continuing as its secretary.

The club's major successes during its first four years include passage of the gay rights or-

dinance in Oakland, domestic partners legislation in Berkeley and the school districts of both Berkeley and Oakland, and tough AIDS antidiscrimination ordinances in both Berkeley and Oakland. The club continues to press for a similar AIDS ordinance in Hayward and is currently gearing up to oppose the LaRouche quarantine initiative.

EBL/GDC meets at 7:30 p.m. on the third Monday of each month at Claremont Middle School, which is across Miles Avenue from the Rockridge BART Station in Oakland.

Sun, Music For E. Bay Gay Day

by Marc Slavin

The East Bay Gay Pride celebration got its usual one week head start over the main event in San Francisco with a Sunday afternoon outing in downtown Berkeley, June 22.

Nearly 1,000 celebrants gathered in Martin Luther King, Jr. Park for a day of sunshine, live music, and political speeches in what event organizers termed the East Bay's "family picnic."

Much of the day's rhetoric centered on the anti-gay LaRouche AIDS initiative on the November ballot. Political activists used the occasion to kick off their anti-LaRouche campaign by signing up volunteers and collecting donations.

East Bay Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club President Tom Brougham denounced the LaRouche initiative as signalling "open season on all of us." He said it would lead to a "reversal

of current state policy which is generally based on scientific research and compassion."

"We have not chosen this battle," Brougham said, "but we cannot avoid it." He called for a "united, broad-based campaign."

Berkeley Vice-Mayor Veronika Fukson called LaRouche a "madman" and promised, "This is a community that is going to fight this kind of blame-the-victims mentality."

Several dozen East Bay gay and lesbian groups lined the perimeter of the park with colorful booths and displays while friends met for food and music on the grass.

"San Francisco's celebration is like Mardi Gras, ours is a family picnic," said East Bay Gay and Lesbian Celebration Committee Co-Chair Jim Wilson.

"In San Francisco it's wonderful to be in a crowd of millions of gays and lesbians, but we have a smaller community over here; it's more personal," he said.

Wilson served beer from a booth by the stage while the crowd stood and joined Lesbians of Color from the Pacific Center in a chorus of "We Won't Study War No More."

"This is also an event which more women come to because proportionately, there are more lesbians in the East Bay," he said.

Last year's East Bay celebration suffered from cold weather, but sun worshippers were out in force this time, including one man who brought his 14-foot pet Burmese python. The python, named Burt, lolled in the grass amid a crowd of the curious, and seemed to enjoy the music and sun as much as anyone else.

Flags

(Continued from page 25)

Freedom Day parade committee, now has only six stripes, representing the artist's rainbow; pink and violet have been dropped.

According to Gilbert Baker, the flag's designer, the original eight colors of the flag represented: sex, life, healing, sun, nature, art, harmony, and spirit respectively.

The Paramount Flag Company has produced a number of variations on the rainbow flags for a variety of active gay organizations. "As the rainbow has become associated with, and as of last year officially adopted by, the parade committee, we have seen rainbow variance, including rainbows with pink triangles. We've made some vertical rainbows. We've made rainbows with lambdas, and rainbows with pink triangles and lambdas. We have made lambda rainbows and just colored lambda flags," said Ferrigan.

"There is one group that said the gay flag should be orange with a purple lambda to represent Halloween," he said.

"It is certainly through the parade committee in San Francisco that the rest of the parade committees throughout the country have discovered the rainbow," said Ferrigan. "We are witnessing the creation of a new international flag. What ultimate shape it will take we still don't know. But it will definitely utilize the rainbow."

Ferrigan believes the rainbow is an appropriate symbol of gay freedom because "the best and most historically used symbol for the unity of the whole and the diversity of its components is the rainbow. Each flag tells a story. When you think about national flags, they are a country's chance to send a nonverbal message to the rest of the world."

PWA

(Continued from page 2)

in the choice of speakers. Celebration co-chair Marsha Levine said the speakers who were selected were chosen to "give other people a chance to speak." A statement issued Friday said, "We have chosen speakers who can best embrace their brothers and sisters with words of unification, rather than only addressing topics and issues of concern."

"The Freedom Day Committee has created this stage using a new philosophy that we hope will be inclusive of all members of our community and not address the crowd as segmented and separatist," said the committee's statement.

"They will direct their remarks to a community that must and will stand together, strong and visible, in the face of violence, AIDS, adverse legislation, and oppression," said the committee.

Parade committee members refused to elaborate on their statement, despite inquiries.

People with AIDS aren't the only group who got eliminated in the execution of the celebration's "new philosophy." No gay elect-

ed officials nor any gay candidate for public office will be allowed on the stage.

Friday night the People with AIDS Alliance met to discuss the decisions of the steering committee. Committee Board President Ken Jones was present at the meeting.

Bobby Reynolds, a person with AIDS, said the group was told by Jones there would be four speakers. They were also told there would be no changes made in the program. The same evening a new list of speakers was issued from the Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Committee with three additional speakers.

Following their meeting with Ken Jones the People with AIDS Alliance prepared a statement. Richard Rector, a co-director of the AIDS Alliance, said the group had been deceived. What is clear is the fact that people with AIDS are angry, outraged, and hurt by the committee's actions.

Jones told the meeting that a special seating area had been set aside at the parade and the celebration for people with AIDS. An angry Richard Rector responded, "They want to provide for us, yet they will not allow us to provide for others. They won't even give us the time to thank the community." Rector continued, "It has now become politically correct to provide for

people with AIDS but it is not politically correct to have AIDS."

Rector said, "The People with AIDS Alliance will make a strong statement." It won't be on the stage but on the streets during the parade. Their contingent will be behind the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band very close to the front of the parade.

The People with AIDS Alliance banner will be at the beginning of their group. It will be followed by the Fighting for Our Lives banner. Motorized vehicles will be available for any person who is unable to walk the distance of the parade.

The statement will be their presence. They hope that every person who has AIDS or an AIDS-related condition, and is able, will join them Sunday in their symbol of dignity and pride.

Sanford Kellman, a producer of next Sunday's Gifcenter Pride Day Tea Dance, is openly furious at the actions of the celebration organizers. Kellman said, "If they can't go on that stage, they sure as hell can go on mine." With that said he said that every person with AIDS or ARC will be admitted free to the afternoon dance party. The People with AIDS Alliance is supervising the distribution of tickets. ●

Fusion Energy Foundation lists an annual income of \$3.5 million.

Today, this man with a strange history has become involved in California politics and AIDS. Why? He once was asked about his chameleon changes from left to right politics and replied, "We've changed our tactics. You work with who you can, when you can."

tions Commission, he claims its members "are Nazis, controlled by the KGB as well as homosexuals." If placed in power he would "hang traitors." His critics, he says, "originate with the drug lobby or with the Soviet operation."

It is not by accident that LaRouche calls his California initiative group PANIC. In an hysterical 32-page pamphlet on AIDS he states there will be no Americans alive by 1992 unless there are drastic steps taken to halt the spread of AIDS. He calls for extensive amounts of money to be spent on treatment and research—and for mandatory antibody testing and the quarantining of those with AIDS and those "suspect" of having or developing AIDS.

Suddenly, in a complete reversal, LaRouche turned to the right—establishing contacts with the KKK, neo-Nazi groups, and the ultra-right Liberty Lobby. By 1976, he had formed the U.S. Labor Party and ran for president. He tried again as a Democrat in 1980. By 1984, he was calling his operation the National Democratic Policy Committee (NDPC), a deliberately confusing name to appear to be an affiliate of the Democratic Party. He began running candidates under that title. In California, the campaign for the "AIDS control initiative" was run by leaders in the NDPC.

In the past year, the Virginia recluse has been having legal problems across the country. He is contesting orders in three states to stop issuing unregistered promissory notes. In Boston federal court, three government agencies have charged LaRouche followers with the fraudulent use of credit cards involving hundreds of thousands of dollars. The LaRouche candidate for Wisconsin Secretary of State was arrested for disorderly conduct when he handed a piece of raw liver to the Milwaukee archbishop during a public meeting.

The federal government has been attempting to trace LaRouche's financial sources. The Virginian claims that he has 100,000 dues-paying members and 10,000 subscribers (at \$400 a year) to his *Executive Intelligence Review*. His tax-exempt

LaRouche

(Continued from page 2)

the grassroots effort that will directly educate the public. It has six regional divisions.

Fight LaRouche is the tentative title of the second group. It will employ a political consultant to conduct a public attitude poll and raise the large amount of money necessary to run a television and newspaper advertising campaign. Some organizers are estimating that over \$3 million will be needed in the overall effort.

PANIC (Prevent AIDS Now Initiative Committee) is the Los Angeles-based LaRouche organization that will present the "AIDS control" arguments. It is headed by Khushro Gandhi in Los Angeles and Brian Lantz in San Francisco. PANIC is an offshoot of LaRouche's National Democratic Policy Committee (NDPC). Gandhi heads the NDPC for California.

Opponents of PANIC plan to target the unpopular LaRouche himself in a state campaign to defeat the initiative. A recent New York Times/CBS poll found that only one percent of the public has a favorable opinion of him and 20 percent had an unfavorable opinion. The most frequent reasons for why people did not like LaRouche was that he was radical, extremist, strange, crazy, or weird.

WHO IS LAROCHE?

Lyndon LaRouche, 63, seldom leaves his fortified estate in Leesburg, Virginia where he is constantly fighting with local authorities. He uses the telephone a great deal to coordinate his scattered followers. NDPC runs hundreds of candidates for public office and has had a handful of victories.

What does LaRouche believe? He has stated that Walter Mondale is an agent of the Soviet KGB police, Henry Kissinger is gay and "sleeps with little boys," Jews founded the Ku Klux Klan, and the U.S. is near economic collapse and will have to surrender to the militarily superior Soviet Union. Currently under investigation by the Federal Elec-

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(All photos: Rink)

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THE WAY WE WERE

The Movement Did Not Begin at Stonewall

How to Build a Community When the Cops Watch Every Move, Papers Print Your Name, Address, and Your're Fired

by Brian Jones

Thirty years ago, two pioneering publications broke decades of silence for lesbians and gay men. It was long before Stonewall and it was here in San Francisco. Recently, founders of the *Mattachine Review* and *The Lesbian Ladder* got together to reminisce, and to mark the thirtieth anniversary of gay and lesbian publishing here.

"Phyllis and Del and I are so fed up with hearing that everything started in New York and that anything that had to do with the gay movement began with Stonewall—as though anything which happened before Stonewall was written in stone, like archeology, to be dug up somewhere. Well, it wasn't like that." Speaking was Hal Call, animated as always, flanked by Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin.



Harry Hay, Bill Plath and Hal Call

(Photo: Rink)

The occasion was a forum of the Committee to Preserve our Sexual and Civil Liberties and the topic was the way we were.

Like so many early San Francisco gay activists, Hal Call came here because he was forced out of somewhere else for being who he was. In this case the town was Chicago.

"I worked there for a bureau of the *Kansas City Star*, and one night I was caught in a car with three other people not 25 yards from the Lincoln Park Police Station. The cops shined their lights in on us and though we weren't really doing anything, in those days you didn't have to be," Call said.

"They told me at the *Kansas City Star* that they couldn't have a homosexual scandal, so, would I resign. And so I did. I had known since age 13 I was that way and I couldn't change. I'd tried," said Call.

He moved to San Francisco and in 1953 found himself at a

meeting at UC-Berkeley. The discussion was about a new organization, the *Mattachine Society*, which had been founded in Los Angeles.

'ENORMOUS RESPONSE'

"This was the beat era and Jack Kerouac and Ginsberg were

social club for lesbians in San Francisco. Somebody called us"—Lyon and Del Martin were already lovers at the time—"and said do you want to be invited and we said, 'yes!' We wanted to know if there were any other lesbians in San Francisco."

Meanwhile, the *Mattachine*

"The next day in the paper, the name of every person arrested was published in boldface type with their job and address."

—Hal Call

on the fringes of it and, so, some people were willing to approach it. In February 1953, we founded the *Mattachine Society* here and we were active up to the mid 60s. I was the Head Queen of the *Mattachine*. Still am," said Call.

Not long after, the Daughters of Bilitis was founded here in 1955. Phyllis Lyon said, "The Daughters of Bilitis was founded because a third-world, blue-collar woman wanted to have a

Society launched its monthly magazine, the *Mattachine Review*, the same year, 1955. It was the second journal for gay men; the first was published by One, Inc. in Los Angeles.

The *Mattachine Review* was a magazine format and had a variety of articles on topics such as job discrimination and coming out. "I had several pen names because I didn't want

people to know that I was writing most of it, but of course I published my own name on the masthead," said Call.

Shortly thereafter, the Daughters of Bilitis decided they too needed a publication. They published 175 copies of a newsletter on the mimeograph at the *Mattachine Society* headquarters. "The mimeograph broke down after 175 copies and that was what determined our press run," said Lyon.

"We had to print our own publication because newspapers wouldn't print anything about gays and lesbians unless it was that they were arrested," Lyon said.

"We mailed it to everybody anybody knew, to all the members' friends all over the country. The response was enormous; we didn't expect it."

How to find closeted lesbians in San Francisco was a problem. The Daughters decided to send copies of issue number two of the *Ladder* to "every female attorney in the phone book," said Lyon.

"We got threatened with lawsuits. We also got some legal friends, too," said Lyon.

PREACHERS' COATTAILS

Gay and lesbian organizing in San Francisco was well underway by the end of 1956. By 1959, the whispers around town that "the deviants were getting active here" became an issue in the mayoral election.

"In 1959, Russ Wolden was challenging Mayor George Christopher, saying that Christopher was coddling the deviants," Call said. But even then, such blue-nose tactics weren't too popular in San Francisco. "It backfired badly on Wolden and he was thumped."

The next wave in the gay revolution came from the women. They held the Daughters of Bilitis first national conference. Two hundred women from throughout the nation had shown up for the conference; it was the largest gay assemblage in American history.

And they all wore dresses, which was important.

"Our conference was very traditional," said Del Martin. "We had a program, a luncheon, a keynote speaker. Well, some police showed up and said they were with the homosexual detail of the vice squad. Why, I didn't even know there was such a thing. We said, can we help you and handed one of them a program. They were stumped for a minute and then said, 'Do any of you dress in clothes of the opposite sex?'"

"Well, look around," Martin said she told them. "We were all dressed to the teeth. Women who had never had a skirt on were in elegant dresses. That settled it, and they left."

The cops were having more success harassing gay men.

"On the flimsiest of evidence you were sent to jail, just on the allegation of lewd and lascivious behavior. The newspapers were right in step with this whole thing. There was a late night party near Stinson Beach. The cops got wind of it and they raided the place and everybody was sent to jail," said Call.

"The next day in the paper the name of every person was published, in boldface type, with their job and address. This led to firings and suicides," Call said.

With the election of John F. Kennedy as president in 1960, it seemed a new era had come when gays and lesbians could push for equal rights politically. But politicians wouldn't budge without first getting the nod from religious leaders.

"Phil Burton told us, get the churches. I can't introduce a thing or they'll bounce me for legislating sin." At that time Burton, later a Member of Congress, served in the state Senate.

"It took us a while to find some preachers' coattails to ride on so the newspapers would give us some attention," Call said.

1964 marked a turning point. First, KQED television aired a landmark documentary on gays and lesbians called *The Rejected*. Remembers Phyllis Lyon, "Bishop Pike, the Episcopal Bishop, was on it. Then he appointed a committee."

Del Martin said, "We never missed a meeting of that committee. We were always there. So they never could talk about 'them.' They had to talk about 'us.' Since we were there, the conservatives wouldn't say negative things, and the liberals got a good report passed."

Also in 1964, a sort of summit conference of gay lib took place. It was a retreat and representatives from *Mattachine*, the Daughters of Bilitis, and the Tavern Guild took part. So did a few members of the clergy.

"That is the first time we got some valid clerical coattails to ride on. They went out and told the people, 'See here. These are human beings we are dealing with,'" Call said.

San Francisco's big coming out party was the now-infamous drag ball on New Year's Eve, 1965. The laws were still on the books which forbade cross-dressing. Only Halloween was an exception.

Gays decided to push the law and have a drag ball on New Year's Eve. The cops moved in and made numerous arrests; but it was a rearguard action, which proved more than anything that such oppression of gays would no longer work in San Francisco.

"Herb Donaldson was one of the first ones arrested. Today he is a judge," Call said. "There have been things come to pass that I never thought I'd live to see."

Diana Christensen

To Stop Violence Reach Out to Kids

by Will Snyder

According to Diana Christensen, "communication" is vital when trying to reach out from the gay and lesbian community to the straight community. All the executive director of Community United Against Violence had to do was point to an evaluation of one of CUAV's speakers at a San Francisco high school to get across her point.

"The kids are supposed to send back evaluations of our talks," she related, "and one of them was interesting and chilling. It said 'Killing's my job. I like my job'"

Fortunately, not all of the evaluations contain messages like that. But Christensen said it is an indication of why CUAV goes into Bay Area high schools.

"We get good feedback, too," she said. "We feel good that we have been able to go outside the sex ed classes to help people. That's one of the great things about this situation. When a lot of other people see us, they can't help but notice that we are not child molesters."

"This is important," she added, "because we know that 50 percent of the people who assault gays and lesbians are kids under 20 years of age."

She said it is important to get to the younger set to change viewpoints. Older people set in their ways are going to be difficult to change, according to Christensen, "but I expect to change the kids to be clearer thinkers."

That kind of confidence fits right in with Diana Christensen, an energetic 27-year-old woman

who has spent much of her lifetime in the Bay Area. That kind of energy and confidence is reflected in the fact that Christensen not only oversees CUAV, but is also president of the Commission on the Status of Women. She's also a member of the Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom as well as on the San Francisco women's volleyball team for Gay Games II.

She admitted that she joined CUAV for purely mercenary reasons. "Why did I join CUAV? I needed a job. It's simple economics," she said.

But it wasn't long before she found herself becoming a determined activist. She remembered demonstrating in 1981 with other CUAV members outside of Mission police station for the removal of then-Capt. Don Taylor. The latter had been strongly criticized by the gay and lesbian community for hostile attitudes coming out of Mission police.

Two days after the protests, Taylor was bounced by former po-



Diana Christensen

(Photo: Rink)

lice Chief Con Murphy. Vic Macia became the captain at Mission and relations between police and the gay and lesbian community have been vastly improved since then.

"The relationship between the gay and lesbian community and the police department is extremely important for us at CUAV," said Christensen. "We are finding out more and more every day how they operate and how we can help each other. The problems that happened in 1981 have been lessened a great deal."

"Vic Macia has been a key player here," she added. "Chief Jordan (Frank Jordan, the new police chief) will be a key player."

Even Con Murphy was a key player. His shakeup of the force at that time was helpful and good for us."

She pointed out that this kind of relationship was a contrast to police/gay activities in the past. "Just 25 years ago," she said "police were raiding gay bars. It was an everyday thing, even in San Francisco. Now the relations between the two groups are much improved."

She paid tribute to past gay and lesbian leaders and said their struggles are essentially the same as the current generation of gay and lesbian leaders. "I have so much respect for people such as Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon,"

she said. "They had a lot of tough things happen back then, but they never gave up. If we think that we are facing tough battles, we should remember the struggles of our past leaders."

With that in mind, she says, CUAV is pushing forward with its programs for communications. The speakers will continue to go into the high schools. The monitors will continue to watch over parades and events which could be occasions for violence. Diana Christensen and others from CUAV will continue to sit down with the police and work on how to eliminate reactions such as "Killing is my job," from area youth.

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Juanita Owens

Communications Key To Police Relations

by Dianne Gregory

If Juanita Owens were asked the question used by the Peace Corps recruiting commercials of the '60s,—"Do you think the glass is half empty or half full?"—she would surely answer that it is half full.

Owens, appointed by Mayor Dianne Feinstein Jan. 7 to finish Jo Daly's term on the San Francisco Police Commission, really believes in civic duty and the importance of making a contribution to society. Fortunately, as not only the sole gay person on the commission but the only woman, she is in a position to do so.

"I want to make a contribution," Owens said in a recent interview. "I'm in the system and therefore I can speak and raise issues that need to be raised."

Owens comes out of a strong matriarchal tradition that emphasizes hard work and accomplishment. Of Portuguese and American Indian ancestry, she was partially raised by her grandmother, who admonished her to "make something of yourself." That she did.

She received her Ph.D. in education from the University of San Francisco after getting a master's in multicultural education from the same university and doing undergraduate work at San Francisco State University. She paid her own way through school, sometimes holding down three jobs. She is now the assistant director of the Mission Community College Center, after having spent 14 years with the Community College District. She started out teaching graphics. Owens also spent two years on the San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women. And then early in 1986 came the appoint-

ment to the police commission.

"I am familiarizing myself with the operations [of the police department] so that I can make good decisions," Owens told the *Bay Area Reporter*. Part of that familiarization process has included visits to the Fingerprint and Communications Divisions, meeting with a women's support group within the department, and going on a "ride-along" with a police officer. "There was one moment when I felt vulnerable [on the ride-along]," she said, "and now I know how the officers feel." She also plans to walk a police beat in the near future.

Owens brings a solid education administration background to the commission, and takes a management approach to the job. Every time an officer comes before the commission charged with an act of wrongdoing or inferior job performance, she thinks not of retribution but of education.

"We can develop or modify programs that can have a positive effect on field operations," she said. "We need to use preven-



Juanita Owens with Mayor Dianne Feinstein

(Photo: Rink)

tive medicine." She also says she wants to be viewed by the rank and file police officers as honest, informed, understanding, and compassionate.

So, how does this relate to the lesbian and gay community? Owens says that although she is a representative of the community on the commission, she represents the people of the City of San Francisco foremost.

"I'm [on the Police Commission] to serve the people of San Francisco," she said. "I'm here to do a job. It's a big responsibility, anything that deals with people's lives, and we [the gay community] don't stand alone."

Owens also says the best way she can serve the gay community is to keep the lines of communication open.

"People have access to me," said Owens. "That's how I can best serve our community." One

way she is doing that is to become a sort of liaison between the police department and the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade Committee. She says she has already set up new lines of communication between the parade committee and the command post that serves as a center for officers covering the parade. She also intends to work closely with the Community United Against Violence (CUAV).

Another line of communication Owens has set up is with Police Chief Frank Jordan. She says he is a man of integrity, and that she "feels confident about" her relationship with him. Another person who has shown her much support is former commissioner Jo Daly, who she says really cares about the police department.

Overall, what may sound to some as an idealistic police commissioner, Juanita Owens is tem-

pered with a healthy streak of realism. She realizes just how complex the police department is, and wants to act in the best interests of all concerned.

"I feel like I can make some changes that are positive," she said. "You identify the needs and then do what you can to implement the needed changes. I have no problem making decisions and standing behind them."

In order to implement change, Owens knows that prioritization and hard work are the best ways to get things done. She says that if she can make just one change for the better during her tenure on the police commission, she will be satisfied.

"We're fortunate as gays and lesbians to live in San Francisco," she said. "We live in a city where we can effect change, where we have a voice. I want my skills to be used to the fullest." ●

"was able to impart a vision of how things ought to be." He specifically recalls Moscone's willingness to go to the mat over Proposition 6, the Briggs initiative in 1978 that would have prohibited homosexuals from teaching in public schools in California. Having worked hard as political action chair for the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club and also as its membership chair, in 1982 he was appointed to the Elections Commission by Mayor Dianne Feinstein. An eleven member board, appointed in part by the mayor and in part by the Board of Supervisors, it is charged with providing advice to the Registrar of Voters as well as encouraging citizen participation in elections. Its real significance, Law feels, is providing access for gay people to the city power structure. As one of 200 city commissioners, if Law needs to twist somebody's arm, he need only pick up the phone.

His most challenging role, he feels, has been in his capacity as lawyer for the chief of police. He was hired originally to prosecute police officers who had broken the rules, not a very popular job.

(Continued on page 46)

Law Wilson

He's Attorney For The Chief Of Police

by Tom Horn

Law Wilson is not an ordinary young lawyer working for the city. He happens to be the lawyer for the chief of police. In fact, he's been the lawyer for the last three chiefs of police. A 1977 graduate of Hastings Law School, with a background in law enforcement and civil rights work in the South, Law Wilson was a natural to fill the vacancy with the police department.

Not wanting there to be any misunderstanding, he told them right up front that he was gay. He recalls with satisfaction that upon that revelation, "they didn't bat an eye." In fact, he considers it to their great credit that although he was to be the lawyer for the chief, the interviewing officer did not even consider the fact of his gayness significant enough to discuss with the chief before he was hired.

Always loving politics, Law Wilson walked precincts for the late Mayor George Moscone. The 1973 mayoral election between Moscone and conservative John Barbagelata was decided by less than two votes per precinct. He smiled as he noted that, "I certainly got him more than two votes in my precinct."

His advice was consistently sought by the young Mayor Moscone who, as Law recalls,



Law Wilson

(Photo: Rink)

FORWARD TOGETHER

NO TURNING BACK!

Jim Foster

Making Changes On Health Panel

by Tom Horn

"I asked for the job because I wanted to make a difference," says San Francisco Health Commissioner Jim Foster. He has been making a difference for some thirty years. It is difficult to think of anyone who has been more in the forefront and on the cutting edge of the gay movement in this country than Jim Foster.

Born in Brooklyn, New York and educated at Brown University, he came to San Francisco in 1959 after having been honorably discharged from the United States Army. "I knew I was gay then," he says, "but this was 1957!" He laughs that possibly he should have followed the advice of a friend and "check the box very heavily and then erased it."

Recognizing how tightly shut the closet door was, Jim was not in San Francisco long before he began organizing the gay and lesbian community into a social and political force. He met David Goodstein, later to become the publisher of *The Advocate*, together they created the Whitman-Radcliffe Foundation, a tax-exempt organization directed towards providing information and social programs for the gay and lesbian community.

While there he started the first gay substance abuse program in San Francisco. This has now become Acceptance House and 18th Street Services. In 1973 he began a national advertising campaign aimed at demystifying homosexuality. That same year Rick Stokes became the first openly gay person (except Jose) to seek elected political office. Jim ran his campaign for Community College Board. It was a very close election with Rick just miss-

ing it.

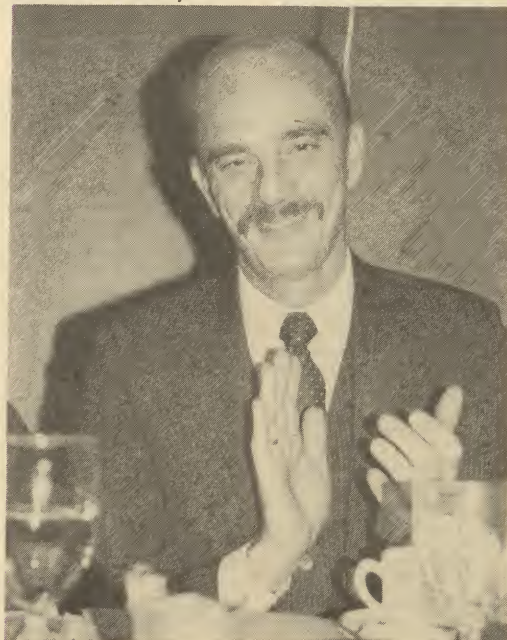
At this time in history, Jim recalls, gays were spending all of their energies attempting to educate straight people. Wanting to deal with the real problems, political, legal, and social, that affected gay people, Jim founded the Society for Individual Rights (SIR). Various committees were formed dealing with different problems. Jim served as the chair of the community services committee which dealt in such areas as VD education and employment services.

SIR also sponsored the first same-sex dances in San Francisco. "This was considered radical at the time," says Foster. It provoked raids by the police but Jim stuck by his guns and with the help of lawyers like Herb Donaldson (now a judge) and Rick Stokes, he helped establish the right for gays to have dances.

SIR served a valuable function but Jim felt it would never reach its full political power potential since it was not within the context of the Democratic Party. Feeling that there needed to be a gay political club, he founded the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club.

He remembers dragging 20 or 25 people from the old SIR office on 6th Street down to the California Democratic Council Conven-

(Continued on page 53)



Jim Foster

(Photo: Rink)

ACLU Puts National Resources Into Gay Rights

Largest Civil Liberties Organization In U.S. Is First Non-Gay Legal Group to Work for Gay Rights

by Marc Slavin

With the appointment last month of Nan Hunter as staff counsel, the American Civil Liberties Union launched its first national Lesbian and Gay Rights Project, becoming the first non-gay legal rights organization in the country to establish a gay rights division.

Hunter, who has been staff counsel of the ACLU's Reproductive Freedom Project for the past five years, was in San Francisco at the end of May to "go over priorities" with gay leaders before assuming her new duties.

The ACLU's position as the country's pre-eminent civil liberties organization gives its new emphasis on gay and lesbian rights a tremendous political significance and puts Hunter in the spotlight.



Nan Hunter

(Photo: H. Seidman)

In an early morning interview with the *B.A.R.* at the ACLU's San Francisco office, Hunter paused over a bagel and cream cheese to answer questions on civil rights challenges faced by the gay and lesbian community and the growing role she hopes the ACLU will play in gay rights work.

"We are at a very interesting moment," she says. "Because of AIDS, gay and lesbian rights issues have irrevocably entered mainstream political discourse in this country. There is a new searching for language and ideas." She urges gay activists to seize the moment and act aggressively to shape the current debate.

"It is very important for those of us active in the community to try and guide the discussion and supply the principles which society as a whole can use to restructure more fairly the rights of people in our community," she said.

Hunter added, "AIDS on the one hand has generated enormous hysteria, but it has also provided the context in which certain progressive steps can be taken. It is a double-edged phenomenon."

With the number of gay and lesbian rights cases accelerating, Hunter says an unprecedented

and "urgent" focus has developed on questions of law that can have an impact for years to come.

"Because of AIDS, issues of life partners who survive have become more visible in areas of housing, bereavement leave, and property bequest," she says.

With the inception of the rights program, gays and lesbians will have a legal resource center in place virtually everywhere in the country. "Like gay people," says Hunter, "the ACLU is everywhere."

Touting the ACLU's nationwide resources, Hunter says, "For gay people who live where the oppression is the worst, often the only civil rights organization that's there for them to turn to is the ACLU, and some of our most important work arises in those areas."

She particularly points to *Hardwick v. Bowers*, the challenge to the constitutionality of Georgia's sodomy law, currently awaiting a Supreme Court decision. Hunter prepared the ACLU's friend of the court brief when the case was at the appeals level.

She says such legal challenges to the nation's sodomy laws must be put on a par with AIDS issues as one of the major civil rights

battles facing the gay community.

Roughly half of the states have sodomy laws, according to Hunter. "They are seldom enforced, but they are relied on to deny rights in custody cases, in employment cases, in housing cases. The argument is that when one admits to being gay or lesbian, one is admitting to be a criminal under the laws of the state. They are anachronistic and hypocritical and they are used against us continually and symbolically and very powerfully."

While Hunter believes the case can be won, she says it is likely to be decided on a narrowly defined doctrine of privacy. "I don't expect this Supreme Court to issue any sweeping judgments on the morality of lesbian and gay relations," she says.

Hunter believes the meaning of a *Hardwick* win should be "carefully constructed to expand upon whatever principles of sexual privacy are secured." She foresees stepping up efforts to eradicate sodomy laws in states where they exist. "All hell will break loose on that issue," she says.

A *Hardwick* loss, on the other hand, would signal "a major retrenchment."

FORWARD TOGETHER

NO TURNING BACK!

MCC Answers Needs Of Gay Spiritual Community

Two S.F. Churches Strive to Serve Many Needs, Work to Integrate Gays Into Religious Mainstream

by Steve Warren

As Anita Bryant used to trumpet, "Orange juice isn't just for breakfast anymore," the pastors of San Francisco's two Metropolitan Community Churches (MCC) will tell you that churches serving the gay and lesbian community are no longer just for worship—if they ever were.

Rev. Jim Mitulski moved here last month from New York with his lover, Bob Crocker, to pastor MCC of San Francisco (Eureka Street), where he will be formally installed July 12. Rev. Elder James E. Sandmire is pastor emeritus of that church but currently pastors Golden Gate MCC, which he founded five years ago.

In separate interviews the men expressed many similar ideas. "There are ways to serve the community other than Sunday morning worship," Mitulski said.

Sandmire elaborated some of them. "In this town if you have a lover and any sense of religious commitment, you call MCC for a holy union. Gay fathers and lesbian mothers call us for christenings. When people are sick—even before AIDS, though it's certainly increased—their lovers or families will ask us to visit them."

And speaking of the many memorial services held at his church, Mitulski added that even though people may not attend church, "They want the opportunity to ritually observe the passing of a friend."

"In these moments of passage in our lives," Sandmire summed up, "we're still influenced by our culture to mark those in church."

From different perspectives both men observed that traditional religion is not the major industry in San Francisco that it is elsewhere.

"New York seemed to be a more religious culture than San Francisco," noted Mitulski, still in the "first impression" stage. "I've met many people here who never grew up in church. On the church page I find listings for churches I've never seen before."

"The gay community is somewhat like the general community," Sandmire said of the city, "in that institutionalized religion is not terribly important to them. On the other hand there is a strong religious sense." He cited AIDS vigils and other events as having "strong religious overtones," adding that even before AIDS he was aware of "a kind of selfless humanism, a spontaneous kind of caring" in the way the community took care of its own.

Mitulski has found that gay men and lesbians have a greater sense of community here than in New York, as well as a higher degree of integration with full acceptance into the community at large, "so the challenge for the church is to engage people on a deeper level than just their sexual orientation. There's no novelty about being a 'gay church.' This allows our two churches to develop individual identities and for each to reach constituencies that the other may not." He characterized MCC of San Francisco as "lively. It's growing, it's interesting. It's not a church that requires you to check your brains at the door."

Sandmire speculated on the differences in the people who sought his help in founding Golden Gate MCC five years ago, which still apply to his congregation today. "More people were older—although we have younger people too. There were more couples—we have a lot of couples," Sandmire and his life mate, Jack Hubbs, marked their 27th anniversary June 15, he said.

"There were quite a lot of conservative people—in the best sense of the word. My politics are certainly not conservative and they knew my politics. They were interested in liturgy and social action. At first they wanted to be in a different area of town but that's become less important because we both draw from all over the city," said Sandmire.

Despite efforts to avoid it, many people—even some members of both congregations—viewed the start of Golden Gate MCC as some sort of schism and have continued to presume the churches to be in competition with each other. Sandmire, who has been involved with MCC since the San Francisco church began in 1970, disputed that notion.

"In the early days," he said, "it was posited that there would one day be five MCC's in San Francisco because of the population size. The Baptists always grow by getting mad, but not all churches are like that." He pointed to his own Mormon background for an example of a church that forms a new congregation when an existing one reaches a certain size.

The time for expansion seemed right when, in 1981, a group approached him at MCC of the Redwoods in Marin County, another of the four churches he has founded (the other two are in Oakland and West Hollywood), to ask him to start a church in San Francisco "with a somewhat

different appeal." Said Sandmire, "Some of them were new to MCC, some had been members in San Francisco or Oakland, but none were currently involved."



Rev. Jim Sandmire

(Photo: S. Warren)

They went through the proper channels, and the new church even had the support of Rev. Jim Dykes, then pastor of MCC of San Francisco. Still, people will think what they want, and even though the churches have had some joint activities over the years they haven't been perceived as unified. That is about to change.

"As pastor emeritus [of MCC of San Francisco] I am very much concerned that this church be successful," Sandmire said. "I made it a point to meet with Jim [Mitulski] and we've resolved to work together in every way possible."

"Suddenly the meaning of life and death invaded our lives, and we had to confront issues of faith."

"The role of the church," Mitulski said, "is to help these people deal with these religious questions—not necessarily to

convert all of them to Christianity. Some of them may attend one service, or none at all."

The turn to the church, he cautioned, is far from unanimous. "I've encountered a lot of anger toward God around the AIDS issue."

"MCC is the church of the community," Sandmire explained. "Because there's an anti-religious tone growing out of great hurt in the gay movement and the women's movement, there's a tendency to denigrate churches, especially MCC." He sees this as the response of a vocal minority. "I don't think it's shared by the community at large."

In the gay parade every year, Sandmire pointed out, the MCC



Rev. Jim Mitulski

(Photo: S. Warren)

"I'm committed to a new era of cooperation," Mitulski affirmed. "We are one denomination. We worship in different places."

With primarily homosexual congregations both churches are, of course, heavily involved in AIDS ministry. They will soon announce plans for their joint participation in MCC's fellowship-wide AIDS prayer vigil, Sept. 5-7.

"In New York," Mitulski observed, "GMHC [Gay Men's Health Crisis] prepares people to die. I believe AIDS can help people to live. The important questions are not 'Am I going to get AIDS?' but 'What is the quality of my life? What is the quality of my relationship with others? What is the quality of my relationship with God?'"

(Continued on next page)

FORWARD TOGETHER

NO TURNING BACK!

Lyon-Martin: Women Taking Care of Women

Clinic Care for Women's Physical, Emotional Health Works to Give Attention to Lesbian Concerns

by Sharon Page

Underrated, underresearched, and underreported, lesbian health issues are still emerging from a closet of neglect and invisibility. In the movements to redress the failings of the medical establishment, lesbian-specific concerns have taken a back seat to heterosexual women's and, more recently, gay men's health needs.

Working to ensure attention to lesbian wellness is the Lyon-Martin Clinic for Women's Health Services. Now in its sixth year, the clinic is unique in three respects. It goes beyond gynecological care to provide comprehensive primary services. It is San Francisco's only such women's health care facility that is not for profit. And it is especially concerned with lesbian medical and emotional needs.

What are the health concerns specific to lesbians? Executive director Fran Miller and medical director Lisa Capaldini targeted lack of access to informed and sensitive care as the root problem. Rather than undergo demeaning, homophobic treatment by medical providers, many lesbians defer routine health examinations, causing delayed diagnosis and intervention. Some lesbians have gone without attention for as long as ten years, said Miller, after a negative experience with the medical system.

Miller noted that average intervals between pap smears, a simple, routine test for cervical cancer, is more than twice as long for lesbians as for heterosexual women. She explained that,

though the cervical cancer rate for lesbians is not higher than that of other women, abnormalities are often not detected until later, less treatable stages.

Many conditions thought of as "women's health issues" are related to heterosexual activity, such as contraception, pregnancy and sexually-transmitted disease, Capaldini pointed out. "The medical establishment has focused on reproductive health to the detriment of women's other concerns, like breast cancer and osteoporosis," she said.

Lesbians are at high risk for "environmentally-related" conditions, such as substance abuse, stress, and depression.

With a staff of seven, Lyon-Martin Clinic currently serves

over 200 women each month. Almost three-quarters of these are lesbians and about one-quarter women of color. The clinic's location in the heart of the Mission district and its bilingual, multicultural staff are drawing in growing numbers of Latinas of all sexual orientations.

Miller described the clinic's most effective means of promotion as word of mouth. In a recent survey of community health clinics, she said, 92 percent of Lyon-Martin clients reported being "very satisfied" with their experience.

In response to community demand, the clinic is expanding its services, with plans to offer massage, acupuncture, and chiropractic. An art gallery showcasing local talent has become a permanent feature of the facility. Miller enthusiastically encourages artists to submit exhibit proposals.

Recently Lyon-Martin kicked off an ongoing series of lectures on topical issues, held the last Thursday of each month in conjunction with the Iris Project, a substance abuse counseling service. The June 26 program features a discussion on Women and AIDS, with Nancy Shaw of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

The AIDS crisis has impacted lesbian health concerns in several ways, according to Miller and



Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin

(Photo: Rink)

Capaldini. Most directly affected by the medical and social implications of the emergency are lesbians who are considering or who have had gay male sperm donors, and those co-parenting with gay men. Lyon-Martin is handling increasing inquiries from such women.

More generally, Capaldini said, the epidemic has shifted the perception of gay health issues back to a contagion-centered illness mode, rather than a proactive health maintenance focus. And the pressing needs of the AIDS tragedy have further deflected attention and resources from life-threatening problems facing lesbians, such as cancer and alcoholism.

On the positive side, Miller expressed hope that a stronger alliance can be forged between lesbians and gay men in the fight for responsive and empowering health care. She recalled an AIDS panel where "hearing men describe their oppressive experiences with the medical system took me right back to the early days of the women's health movement. Lesbians have for years provided leadership in developing analysis and politics around access to appropriate care, self-help, and alternative services. It's crucial that gay men understand their self-interest in supporting lesbian health organizing."

Capaldini noted that the AIDS crisis has meant that "more people are coming out to health providers, forcing the medical estab-

lishment to deal with gayness." She stressed the growing opportunities to raise consciousness within the system and to demand access to care for all those currently discriminated against by institutionalized medicine.

Homophobia, combined with the historic trivialization of women's health concerns, has left an entrenched legacy of ignorance to overcome. "It's been so difficult to get accurate data. There's so much we still don't know about lesbian health issues," said Capaldini. To fill the informational gaps, Lyon-Martin participates in a variety of research projects in cooperation with, for example, Project AWARE, UCSF, and the National Lesbian and Gay Health Education Foundation.

With the evident need for more research, outreach, and services to lesbians, Miller identified funding as the biggest challenge facing the clinic. To ensure accessibility to low-income women, Lyon-Martin offers sliding scale fees. To cope with shrinking public funding and tough competition for private and foundation monies, Miller stresses a lean administrative budget, careful long-range planning, and an expanding fee-for-service revenue basis.

The clinic's founders chose its name to honor the pioneering work of Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin in forging a feminist movement and lesbian community. "Though not formally affiliated with the clinic, Del and Phyllis have always been very supportive of our efforts," said Miller.

Lyon-Martin maintains an extensive referral service, offering information on counselors, physical therapists, and a wealth of lesbian-positive support groups of all kinds. Capaldini summed up the clinic's mission this way: "We are committed to providing quality, comprehensive care in a relaxed and comfortable environment. We take the best from the Western medical model and combine it with other therapeutic disciplines and plain common sense for a holistic approach."

As Miller put it, "Each day we open our doors is a new measure of our success."

Lyon-Martin Clinic is located in the Los Portales Medical Building, 2480 Mission Street. For more information, call 641-0220.



Del and Phyllis in the early years

MCC

(Continued from previous page)

contingent is "well received, even by people I've never seen." As he views it, the church is liked—generally respected, considered to be reasonably effective in delivering on what it says it's going to do.

Making a final point about AIDS, Mitulski said, "God does not cause AIDS. God is not punishing us. God is suffering with AIDS right now. God is the source of tremendous healing." What many do not understand, he indicated, is that the healing they receive in answer to prayer may be spiritual rather than physical.

Sandmire spoke of the impact MCC has had on mainline churches since its founding by Rev. Troy D. Perry almost 18 years ago. "There is a growing sense in other churches that gay people are there among them, and it's forcing [the churches] to minister to them in a sense of wholeness, not exception." Meanwhile, separate gay organizations and caucuses have formed in almost every denomination.

"Many of these groups," Sandmire pointed out, "started within or were sanctioned and supported by MCC because we recognized that not everyone wanted to leave their home church." Sandmire helped gay Mormons start Affirmation while he was an elder in MCC.

He sees this movement as having been "very influential in mainline churches. I don't think it's big but it's vigorous. It's causing the churches to reevaluate not only their theology but their programs."

Adding to the pressure is MCC's application to join the National Council of Churches. While it has thus far been rejected, the continuing dialogue between the organizations is, Sandmire said, "having tremendous worldwide influence that's having an effect on the whole community."

In a statement that might sound paradoxical without closer examination, Mitulski declared, "Our spirituality is a gift that we bring to the larger community."

Golden Gate MCC (474-4848) worships at 48 Belcher Sundays at 12:30 and 7 p.m. MCC of San Francisco (863-4434) has Sunday services at 10:30 a.m. at 150 Eureka and hopes to reinstate Sunday evening worship on a weekly basis in the near future. They sponsor the AIDS healing service on the third Monday of each month.

On Gay Freedom Day MCC of San Francisco will have a pre-parade communion service at 9:30. Golden Gate MCC will hold a 9 a.m. worship service. All of the Bay Area MCC's will worship together at 7 p.m. at First Congregational Church, Post and Mason. As always, visitors are welcome.

FORWARD TOGETHER

NO TURNING BACK!

Arthur Lazere

Columnist Tries Clout Behind The Scenes

by Jay Newquist

Arthur Lazere is better known as a gay activist who is demanding that the United Way give more contributions to needy gays and lesbians. But he has more political clout in a lesser-known role.

Lazere chairs the rather obscure, but still powerful San Francisco Industrial Development Authority, which helps create jobs and keep them in the city.

The agency has the power to issue municipal bonds (tax exempt) at a lower interest rate than corporate bonds and it lends money to local businesses.

What's also important to Lazere is the forward progress of the gay and lesbian community toward a complete equality. "I'm an up-front gay person, a real person, not a stereotype," he said recently, indicating in his government work that sexual orientation had become secondary to matters at hand.

"It's just one aspect of our lives," he said.

The 45-year-old Lazere came to San Francisco some ten years ago from New York where he said as a homosexual he felt like a second-class citizen. In his role here as a gay city commissioner, he said he was helping to create gay agendas where they are needed to be heard.

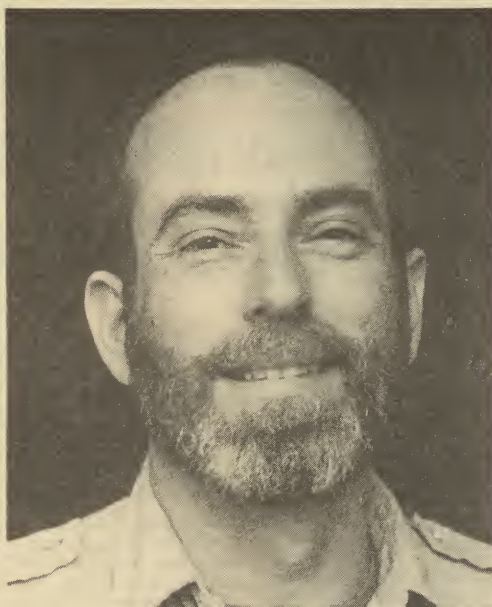
ed to be heard.

Lazere has just been reappointed by Mayor Dianne Feinstein for a second three-year term at the Industrial Development Authority.

Also an outspoken board member of the United Way of the Bay Area, Lazere said he felt his IDA post had been useful to reverse what he called the charity's flagrant neglect of the gay community. "What I say carries a little more clout because I am a city commissioner," he said.

A CPA since 1964, Lazere works from an office in his apartment. He estimated some two-thirds of his clients are gay-owned or operated small businesses.

To stretch in other directions, he said he was trying to make the transition from accounting and politics to journalism. "It's not difficult to do," he said. "I never



Arthur Lazere

(Photo: Rink)

set out to be a city commissioner. It wasn't a goal I had in mind, and I have no political ambitions, and no ambition makes one powerful."

Lazere's foray into writing started at the *B.A.R.* and he now writes a regular column called "On the Job" for *Coming Up*. His subjects are fully researched features on gays in the workplace.

His column also appears in the *New York Native* and a syndicate of other gay papers in Seattle, San Diego, Phoenix, Denver, and

Minneapolis. He has already learned that work as a lowly scribe is rarely lucrative. "I've got to try to make it pay better," he said, somewhat chagrined.

Lazere added that a major goal was to write features about gay people for mainstream (straight) newspapers that he said weren't eager to print them. "Otherwise, you're converting the converted," he said.

He said he had no formal background in writing, but he had studied composition at Berkeley

and sought out other journalists to critique his work.

Lazere stressed his private and public activities were aimed to improve the lot of the homosexual community. "All the things I care deeply about are furthering the cause of gay and lesbian people," he said.

Lazere added he felt the goal for gays and lesbians was as equal partners in society "where you happen to be gay and sexual orientation is irrelevant. We've got a long way to go, but San Francisco comes as close as any place in the world.

"In the long run God is on our side," he said.

Lazere said the AIDS epidemic was so devastating that there wasn't anyone who hadn't watched a friend or lover die. He felt the preoccupation with seeking help as well as the grieving process had nonetheless "kept our energies from other matters."

A positive side of the AIDS drama, according to Lazere, was the progress in the so-called "gay donor option" at the United Way—that is, gays and lesbians who earmark their contributions to gay-related causes.

He reported that such contributions had increased from \$68,000 in 1983 to \$279,000 last year. "This is a pure response to the epidemic. No one is out there telling them to do it," he said. "People are responding with their time, dollars, and love."

Lazere said the gay and lesbian community had endured some setbacks, but he felt it shouldn't dwell on them. "Our own response is long term and so positive it will make us stronger than ever before.

Todd Dickinson

Think You Have Parking Problems?

by Allen White

Todd Dickinson represents the maturing and growth of the gay community in San Francisco. Last February, Mayor Dianne Feinstein asked him to be a commissioner on the San Francisco Parking Authority. He is the youngest gay man ever appointed by Feinstein.

Dickinson said the appointment is proof of further movement by the gay community. The parking authority is responsible for all city-operated off-street parking and is supposed to make parking easier in San Francisco.

Dickinson is part of an administration that wants to ease the parking problems of the city. The mayor has stated that she wants to initiate ten new parking facilities before she leaves office. The Parking Authority has just received an extensive five-year parking plan for the city. Dickinson will be one of those people charged with putting the plan into action and also questioning the conclusions of the report.

The plan defines ten districts with suggestions for easing parking. Castro-Upper Market ranks sixth and the Polk-Van Ness area ranks tenth in the report. Top-

ping the list as the worst parking areas are Inner Clement Street and Chinatown.

The plans call for the construction of a parking garage somewhere in the Castro area. One location under consideration is the property adjacent to Cafe Flore. Resistance from residents in the area forced the plans for the building to be changed to exclude parking.

One interesting part of the plan which Dickinson is examining calls reallocation of colored curb area, conversion of parallel parking to perpendicular parking and the conversion of meter-

ed stalls to a more compact size. The metered stalls will also be converted for greater turnover in the area.

Dickinson said a 150 space garage is planned for the corner of Polk and Bush Streets. The building will also contain space for retail business.

Todd Dickinson believes his appointment comes at a time when the gay community must take a broader view of how it participates in city government. He also noted that in the past several years there have been many times when the presence of a gay person on the parking authority could have produced a quicker and faster solution to problems between city government and the gay community.

An example is the confrontation which took place just a few years ago when the parking authority wanted to close the lot behind Walgreen's Pharmacy. The complaint was that there was too much noise and activity in the parking area, especially at night. The parking authority wanted to close the lot at 10 p.m. Because they had no first-hand knowledge they were unaware of the number of businesses ranging from theaters to restaurants which were open after 10 p.m.

Dickinson also points out that the city's only gay community center was torn down to make room for a city-operated parking garage. He believes his presence on the authority will make a difference in the sensitivity given by



Todd Dickinson

(Photo: Rink)

that arm of city government to many communities in the city.

Dickinson, who is an attorney, is also the chair of The Alliance, a Bay Area gay political action committee. In just three years the organization has made an impact on Northern California politics. As with most political action committees, their reason for being is money. They raise money which they donate to support candidates for public office. They have given funds to both Democrat and Republican candidates

who have taken positions which support the rights of gay men and lesbians.

With the Alliance, Dickinson notes that the gay community is now organized to work for political goals on two important levels. "We have learned how to influence the political structure with our votes and we are also doing it with our money." Dickinson firmly commented that the gay community is learning how to play the game without selling out.

FORWARD TOGETHER

NO TURNING BACK!

Mary Morgan

Taking Sensitivity To Court

by Tom Horn

"Were I not as good at what I do as I am, I would be subject to a great deal more homophobia," says Mary Morgan, the first homosexual to be appointed as a judge in the State of California. Only those who don't know Mary would raise their eyebrows at such an assessment. But to lawyers and litigants alike, Judge Mary Morgan has become one of the most highly respected and competent jurists in the state. Having been a judge a mere five years, she now teaches fellow judges at the Center for Judicial Education's Judges' School.

Mary Morgan was appointed to the San Francisco Municipal Court bench in August 1981. It did not happen by accident. She attributes the organization of the community by well known gay and lesbian lawyers such as Roberta Achtenberg, Jerry Berg, and Sheldon Andelson as being responsible for her appointment to the bench.

Recognizing the importance of minority support, she went around the state talking to other minority bar associations and solicited their support. "You have to remember at this time there were very few lesbian attorneys who had been practicing five years and were willing to be out," Mary says, reflecting back on the situation in the late 1970's.

She remembers the first time she met Gov. Jerry Brown. They were at a fundraiser in Sheldon Andelson's home in Los Angeles. Morgan was concerned about the impression she might make as, socially, she tends to be shy. "But he was just as shy and awkward as I was," she laughs.

Andelson, being the host that he is, arranged to have the governor moved to a different table with each course. Ready to answer every conceivable question on judicial philosophy, Morgan was somewhat taken back when the governor solicited her views

on foreign affairs. She found him very attentive and most interested in her. Some time later the call came that she had been appointed.

"Boy, how that changed my life," she says with mischief in her eye. Morgan had been one of San Francisco's most successful domestic relations attorneys. As such, she developed a close and personal relationship with her clients, many of whom were gay fathers and lesbian mothers. The fact that she had to give up her private cases caused some stress with her clients but they were also "honored their lawyer had become a judge."

Unlike some judges who give up their sensitivity and human compassion upon donning the black robes, Morgan personally placed each and every case she had with another lawyer.

What's her favorite part of the job? "I love having lots of people in court and seeing lots of different people and different issues."

When asked about her most satisfying or rewarding case, she thought back to when she was in criminal court and had a young, divorced father before her on charges of beating up his former wife. He pled guilty and was put on probation. Not long thereafter he was back before Judge Morgan having been picked up for



Judge Mary Morgan, Roberta Achtenberg and son Benjie

(Photo: Rink)

breaking a window at his former wife's home. Being tough on domestic violence, the judge was going to revoke his probation and send him to jail, but she inquired further as to what was causing this behavior. It was a dispute with his ex-wife over visitations of their child.

With the wisdom of Solomon, Judge Morgan determined that he needed to resolve what was causing the problem more than he needed to go to jail. She called a friend who was a civil lawyer and continued the criminal case until the civil lawyer could refer both the husband and his former wife to Family Court Counseling Services.

Three months later both husband and wife came back to her court to thank her for getting them the referral, telling her that the Family Court Services had made them realize that they had to get along for the sake of their child whom they both loved dearly. Both husband and wife requested the judge to dismiss the charges and she did.

But not all cases end with such good results. She openly admits to her frustration with the

criminal justice system. "Things just don't come out right," she says. All the criminal justice system can do is find a defendant guilty and put him or her in jail. It does not address the problem.

Judge Morgan feels that if we diverted some of the resources that are currently being spent on jails to social programs that deal with root problems, such as pretrial diversion and community dispute services, there would be less need for jail. She feels that many people currently in prison have mental problems that are only exacerbated in jail but could be treated with proper referrals.

Mary Morgan and Roberta Achtenberg, her lover, are the parents of a 10-month-old baby boy called Benjie. The demands of her job make it impossible for her to spend as much time with him as she would like and Roberta's situation isn't much better since she is currently working on a book.

But in spite of all these new responsibilities, Mary Morgan reports with satisfaction, "Roberta and I think it's just the nicest thing we've ever done." They draw the line on baby sitters

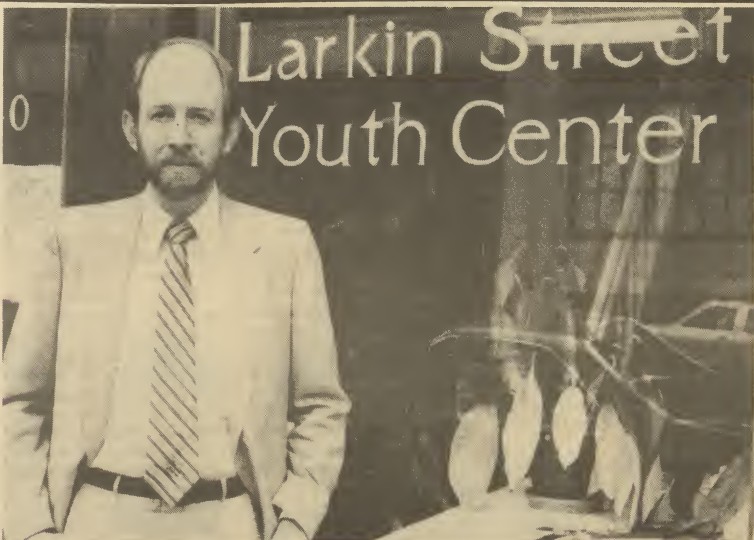
at night, however. Benjie comes along to all political, social and judicial functions.

She is quick to point out that she did not have a child, nor will she allow her child, to be used as a political statement. At the same time, she acknowledges the impact Benjie has had on her colleagues. "Before Benjie was born, I think my colleagues had pretty much forgotten about me being a lesbian, but it's difficult to ignore when I bring him along to the judicial picnic."

This is important she feels because these are the judges that must hear cases involving gay fathers and lesbian mothers. She feels that they have gotten an insight that they would not have otherwise had.

This year Judge Morgan is the Assistant Presiding Judge in charge of civil Law and Motion. Next year she will be Presiding Judge. This means she has gained the respect of all of the other judges who have chosen her to lead them for the next year.

"And that ain't bad for a dyke," she laughs.



Greg Day

(Photo: Rink)

Greg Day

'Get In There And Fight Like Hell'

by Will Snyder

Three days before the 1978 Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade, a tall, wiry man moved to San Francisco, hoping to start a new life for himself. Greg Day came to the city to join his lover. Three days later, he jumped right into gay activism by marching down Market Street with a "No on Briggs" sign.

The activism hasn't stopped for Day since that June of eight years ago. By 1982, he was running for the Board of Supervisors. Today, he's the community relations director of the Larkin Street Youth Center.

But then, Day is used to this kind of activism and people-to-people contact. The 41-year-old activist with the salt-and-pepper beard has been behind causes for a long time.

(Continued on page 51)

FORWARD TOGETHER

NO TURNING BACK!

Herb Donaldson

Gay Judge Says The Doors Must Open Up

Gay Rights Attorney Arrested in 1965, Now He's a Municipal Court Judge

by Allen White

Talking the seat behind the elevated judicial bench, Herb Donaldson wearing the black robes of a judge of the San Francisco Municipal Court is a statesman in San Francisco's gay community. His appointment by former Gov. Jerry Brown to the court bench came on New Year's Eve, 1982.



Judge Herb Donaldson

(Photo: Rink)

To watch Donaldson preside over the daily court proceedings makes it hard to imagine the revolutionary role he played in an event that would later be known as the "Stonewall of San Francisco." On Jan. 1, 1965 at the old California Hall on Polk Street, a dance was planned. The scene became an unbelievable confrontation pitting law enforcement officers against the gay community with the media and many members of the clergy watching in outrage and anger.

That night, over 500 gay men and lesbians attended a dance organized by the six gay groups in the city. In the street were several ministers including Rev. Cecil Williams from Glide Memorial Methodist Church and Rev. Robert Cromey from Trinity Episcopal. Police turned the dark night into daylight with glaring floodlights. Paddy wagons were visibly parked to the side. An estimated 60 police officers were assigned to the jobs of harassing those attending the event.

As each person entered the building, the ministers stood in shock. Everyone who entered was photographed and filmed by the police before they entered.

When police demanded to en-

ter they were met by three attorneys. One of those lawyers was Herb Donaldson. Police were told they could check for fire safety. They wanted to go further. Donaldson and the other lawyers told police that unless they had tickets, an invitation, or a search warrant, they could not enter. The lines had been drawn for the confrontation.

The police then arrested Herb Donaldson and the other lawyers. Others were also arrested that night. For the first time, many San Francisco straights saw how gays were treated.

The ministers were the first to express their anger. Then more and more people expressed outrage. When people spoke out, a major barrier of gay oppression came crashing down.

Since that New Year's night in 1965, Herb Donaldson gained respect for his legal knowledge, his political and business savvy, and his personal compassion and sensitivity. On New Year's Eve 1982, Brown, in one of his last acts as governor, appointed Donaldson to be the first openly gay man to a municipal court judgeship in Northern California. Since then, Donaldson has been elected to the office for a full term.



Herb Donaldson being sworn in by Municipal Court Judge Dorothy von Beroldingen

(Photo: Rink)

Judge Donaldson's daily courtroom activities are not routine. Every day brings a new case. Judge Donaldson must look at a different human being with special needs and problems. With that person comes the responsibility for Donaldson to be fair, firm, and sensitive.

The power of a judge can be awesome. Without need for explanation a judge may put a person in jail for five days for contempt of court. This is an indication of the power given a judge.

For many people, that degree of power is frightening when they appear in court. According to Donaldson, "Most people have absolutely no idea what to do in a courtroom." He added that it is satisfying to diffuse the fear of a person appearing in his courtroom.

Donaldson said he has made a special effort to be sensitive and compassionate to all people. He

admitted he prefers sitting in the municipal court rather than a more lofty court. "I am a judge of the people. I want to work with people." As he sits at City Hall he may be hearing a tenant-landlord dispute or another case where people need the court to settle a divisive issue. The judge says it gives him great satisfaction to work directly with people.

He is dedicated and respected in his position as municipal court judge. Lesbian Judge Mary Morgan and Donaldson are the only gay judges in Northern California. Neither have forgotten their political or social roots in the gay community.

At the same time, Donaldson has not lost his objectivity. He can spot a homophobe in his courtroom immediately, but he can also spot a gay person who expects special treatment. Donaldson detests both positions. They are out of order in his court.

As San Francisco celebrates

Lesbian/Gay Freedom Week, Donaldson wished "people would take more interest in the criminal justice system, not just in jury duty." He would like to see more gay judges sitting in courts in San Francisco, but he doubted that the current state administration would appoint any new gay men or lesbians.

Donaldson said the best way for a gay person to get on the bench is to get elected to the position. He believes it can be done because he knows how it is done.

"People should start preparing and planning carefully," he said, "and then they should line up support. Hard work," he says, "is the final ingredient for a victorious campaign."

Judge Herb Donaldson is a statesman in the gay movement. Twenty-one years after the infamous dance at California Hall, he is enthusiastically challenging gay men and lesbians to walk through the same doors.

peutic."

In spite of the criticism Wilson receives in working for the police department, he feels it is important because of the opportunity it gives him to make a contribution to the gay and lesbian community. He has direct access to the chief of police or any other power point within the police department. He can accomplish much more working behind the scenes as part of the law enforcement establishment than he ever could walking the streets with a banner in his hand (although as a lawyer he fully supports the First Amendment rights of those who choose to demonstrate).

What's in the future for Law Wilson politically? "Right now, I am raising money on the national level for the Human Rights Campaign Fund." As chair of the San Francisco committee of the HRCF, Law is in charge of putting on fundraising events. The Human Rights Campaign Fund has become the most financially successful gay political action group in the country. "It is important to branch out at the national level," Law maintains. He wants to have an impact and an impact he definitely has.

Law Wilson

(Continued from page 40)

He immediately got on the bad side of the Police Officers' Association (POA). Not only was Law Wilson effective in prosecuting cops, but he was also giving one-on-one advice to the chief of police on matters of concern to the gay and lesbian community.

One of his most difficult challenges has been his role in representing the chief in enforcement of the adult theater ordinance. One of the main targets was the Mitchell Brothers who were accused of using their adult theater license as a front for prostitution. Although Law was subjected to a barrage of attacks including a San Francisco supervisor (which made headlines in the B.A.R.), he never shirked from his job.

"I never felt a conflict," Law says. "I felt the chief was justified. I felt it was prostitution."

He readily notes that if he were in the legislature he would vote to change a number of the laws that impose criminal penalties for

sexual conduct, but, as he points out, "For now, I'm sworn to uphold the law and that's what I intend to do."

He recalls his most interesting encounter with a chief of police the night of the Dan White verdict. He was working late at the Hall of Justice when word came down that the jury had reached a verdict. Arriving at the packed courtroom in time to hear the crowd gasp as the jury returned its verdict of voluntary manslaughter, he went straight up to Chief Charles Gains' office.

He recalls the chaos in the hallways. Television lights, cameras were everywhere. Media interviews were being conducted. Some people were crying.

He told the chief, "I know we're going to have problems. I hope we have a plan to deal with it." Unfortunately, there was no contingency plan and the police department was powerless to prevent the rioting and looting that went on that night.

What was Law Wilson doing that night? "I stayed at home and baked chocolate chip cookies. There wasn't anything I could do and it seemed sort of thera-

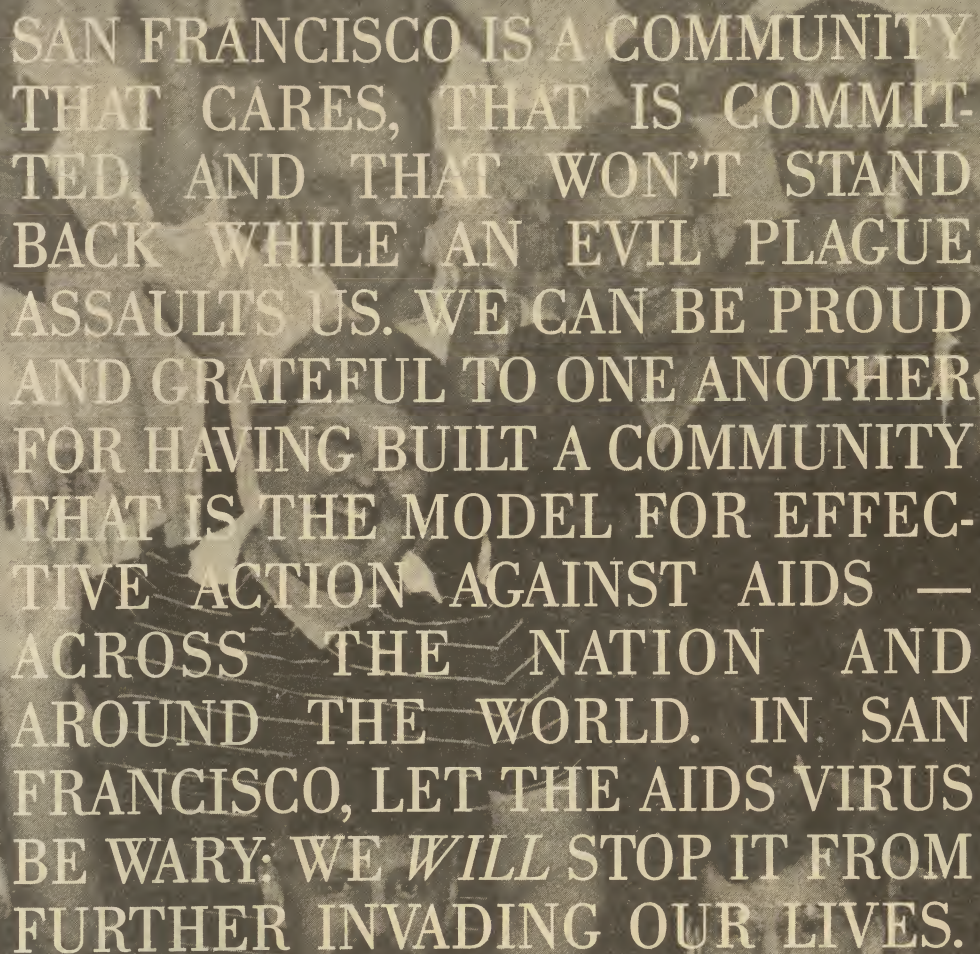
SAN FRANCISCO: NO LONGER A SAFE HAVEN FOR THE AIDS VIRUS

In the beginning of the eighties our community was invaded by a strange virus with a voracious appetite for the immune systems of healthy gay men. It spread itself among its unknowing victims with frightening speed and freedom, traveling freely in an environment where no one recognized

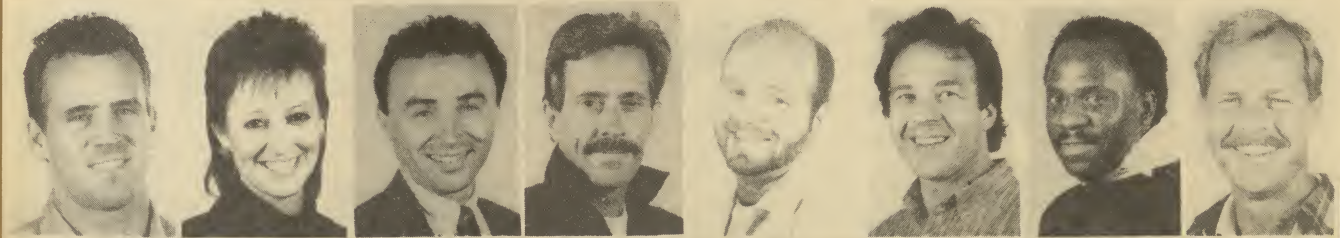
it, where no one knew how to stop it, where no one even knew its name.

Then AIDS was exposed, but with no vaccine, no treatment, and no cure, gay men at risk were left with only one real option for controlling its

spread—stopping its transmission from one person to another while science looked for ways to exterminate it. In that effort, the San Francisco gay community is succeeding. Research now proves we're making headway in preventing AIDS from invading the bodies of still others.



SAN FRANCISCO IS A COMMUNITY THAT CARES, THAT IS COMMITTED, AND THAT WON'T STAND BACK WHILE AN EVIL PLAGUE ASSAULTS US. WE CAN BE PROUD AND GRATEFUL TO ONE ANOTHER FOR HAVING BUILT A COMMUNITY THAT IS THE MODEL FOR EFFECTIVE ACTION AGAINST AIDS — ACROSS THE NATION AND AROUND THE WORLD. IN SAN FRANCISCO, LET THE AIDS VIRUS BE WARY: WE *WILL* STOP IT FROM FURTHER INVADING OUR LIVES.





FROM HYPERSEX TO SAFE SEX. WHAT NEXT?

The freewheeling, do-what-you-want, anything-goes San Francisco we've known and loved is a vastly different place today from what it was back in the good old days. All of us have witnessed and participated in a social event of tremendous proportions, as gay men have celebrated our newfound freedom to love whomever we wanted in a city that allowed us to show our love for one another in ways the world had never seen.

**"I SEE MORE OPENNESS
AND HONESTY IN THE
GAY COMMUNITY. IT
MOTIVATES ME TO
LOOK WITHIN. TO
LEARN MORE ABOUT
MYSELF AND GROW."**

Now, as we're faced with the tragedy of AIDS, we're discovering that love is much more than sex. We're learning about compassion and about service to our friends in need. We're realizing the importance of committing ourselves to 100% safe sex, 100% of the time—the one commitment that will really make a difference to our future. What that future holds remains to be seen, but one thing is for certain—the same energy and determination that built our community will continue to serve us as we fight to protect ourselves against the threat of AIDS.

AIDS IS DIFFERENT FOR EACH ONE OF US. AND IN SOME WAYS IT'S THE SAME.

How each of us responds to the AIDS epidemic depends on who we are and how AIDS has affected our lives. For some of us, AIDS means confronting death. For others, it's the sadness of watching friends die, the loneliness of loss, or the frustration of giving up a way of expressing ourselves. For still others, AIDS is about appreciating the little things more, or about a new way to help and to care. It's discovering intimacy, or finding out that we're okay the way we are. For many of us, AIDS is about learning how to love.

For all of us, AIDS is an opportunity to join together in stopping it forever. Even if all we do in our personal campaign against AIDS is to give up having unsafe sex, then we're making a difference that counts. Because our lives count.

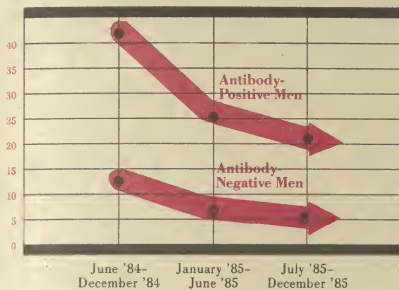
IN THE STRUGGLE TO END THE AIDS EPIDEMIC, SAN FRANCISCO LEADS THE WORLD.

No other city has responded like ours:

- San Francisco has spent millions of dollars for AIDS prevention education.
- The City has earned an international reputation for outstanding treatment programs developed by public servants at public institutions, using public dollars.
- We have homecare programs that are saving taxpayers thousands of dollars, freeing institutional beds for other uses, and improving the quality of care to persons with AIDS.
- Our preventive education programs are well funded, competently managed, and are producing results.
- Our AIDS service-providing organizations are the best in the country, supported by hundreds of volunteers who are giving thousands of hours of their free time.
- Most importantly, as individuals, we are proving our commitment to ending the epidemic by caring for our own health and caring for one another. The willingness we have shown to change our lifestyles, alter our sexual practices, and reach out to others is an inspiration to the world. And, for now, it's the only effective way we have of stopping the AIDS epidemic.



Percentage of gay men (with two or more partners) engaging in anal intercourse without condom during previous six months.*



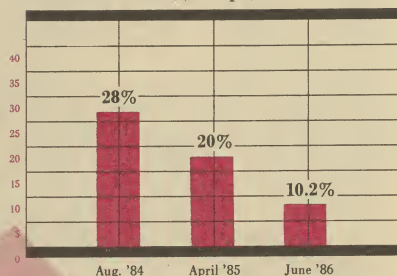
*Winklestein, Warren and Wiley, James. "San Francisco Men's Health Study." Presented at International Conference on Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome, June 23-25, 1986, Paris, France.

CONGRATULATIONS, GAY SAN FRANCISCO! THE FACTS SHOW YOU CARE . . .

Significant changes are taking place in our community, changes that are making a difference to our health and well-being.

FEWER OF US ARE HAVING UNSAFE SEX

San Francisco gay men having unsafe sex outside of primary relationship.* (Includes men not in relationships)

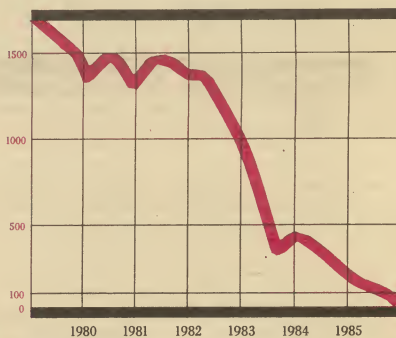


*Based on "Designing an Effective AIDS Prevention Campaign Strategy for San Francisco: Results from the Second Probability Sample of an Urban Gay Male Community." Research & Decisions Corporation, 1984.



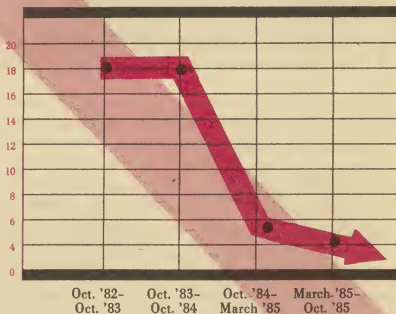
SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE RATES ARE DECLINING IN SAN FRANCISCO.

Number of cases of rectal gonorrhea among new male patients seen at City Clinic by quarter 1980-1986.*



*Based on data provided by the Department of Public Health, City and County of San Francisco, May 1986.

Rate of infection among gay and bisexual San Francisco men who were previously uninfected.*

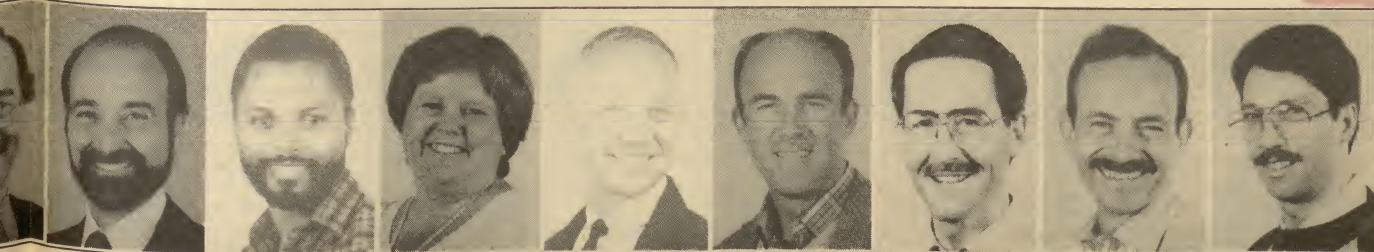


*Winklestein, Warren and Wiley, James. "San Francisco Men's Health Study." Presented at International Conference on Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome, June 23-25, 1986, Paris, France.

"AIDS IS NOT SOMETHING WE CAN DEAL WITH JUST BY USING OUR HEADS. WE NEED TO USE OUR HEARTS TOO."

IT'S ALL WORKING—IN SAN FRANCISCO, FEWER GAY AND BISEXUAL MEN ARE GETTING INFECTED WITH AIDS.

But it's important to remember that San Francisco is unique. Infection rates among other risk groups or in other cities are not necessarily falling. That's why knowing the facts about AIDS virus transmission—and how to avoid transmission—is critically important.



IF YOU ARE NOT PARTICIPATING IN THE CAMPAIGN TO END THE AIDS EPIDEMIC, WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT . . . NOW.

Everybody counts in the effort to stop the AIDS epidemic. Yet there is still a small group of gay men who are having unsafe sex, putting themselves, and others, at unnecessary risk. If you are still having unsafe sex—even if only rarely—please realize that you are threatening your own life, as well as the lives of others, while perpetuating this terrible epidemic.

We are making great progress in our effort to bring the epidemic to an end. As statistics show, infection rates have declined significantly in San Francisco. But they are still too high. Last year, 2,000 more men became AIDS antibody positive. Our job isn't done. The only acceptable rate of infection is zero. And we can achieve it. Please help. Please have only 100% safe sex, 100% of the time. It's the only way we'll win a 100% victory over AIDS.

The Stop AIDS Project: We're making a difference, because you're making a difference.

The Stop AIDS Project provides an open forum for gay and bisexual men to communicate about the AIDS epidemic and its impact on our lives. It is based on the idea that we are not powerless in the face of the AIDS threat: We can bring an end to the epidemic by consciously refraining from actions which transmit the virus to others.

Nearly 12,000 men have been contacted in person by the project since it began in January 1985. Over 4,000 have attended Stop AIDS meetings held nightly in the homes of volunteer hosts across the City. These men have explored their feelings of fear, anger and grief; learned how others are adapting to the changes caused by AIDS, and clarified their commitment to ending the epidemic. They have been inspired by one another and are in the process of empowering thousands of others to make positive changes.

Over 400 volunteers have contributed 5,200 hours of time to project organizing and educational activities. A goal of the project is to mobilize the vast talent and resources within the gay community to serve and participate in the cause of community betterment.

The Stop AIDS Project has become an international model of AIDS prevention. It has inspired similar undertakings in more than a dozen other cities and countries. It was recently nominated to receive the United States Department of Health and Human Services top award in the field of health promotion and disease prevention. It is administered by the Stop AIDS Project, Inc., a San Francisco based nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation, with funding from the City and County of San Francisco Department of Public Health and donations from nearly 1,200 individuals.



"DON'T WAIT UNTIL SOMEONE YOU LOVE DIES TO START CARING FOR YOURSELF AND GETTING INVOLVED."

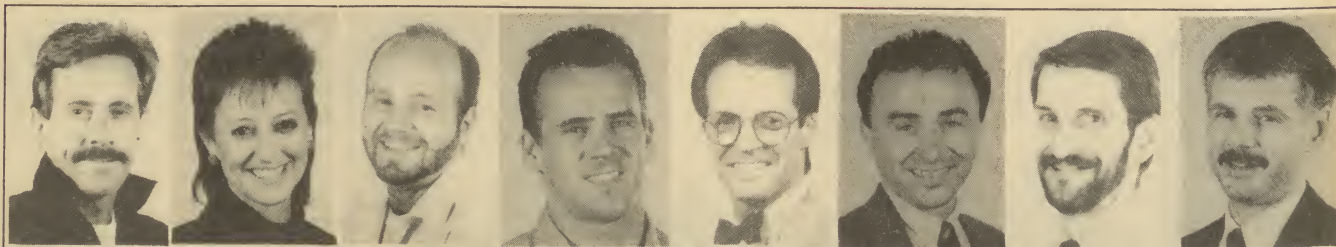
The Stop AIDS Project has no legislative or political program. Its purpose is not to modify behavior or teach a technique. It does not tell people what they should or should not do. It seeks to effect change in a different and more meaningful way—by supporting people to think and act for themselves.

For more information about Stop AIDS Project, call 621-7177.



The Stop AIDS Project, Inc. is funded in part by the San Francisco Department of Public Health and the California Department of Health Services.

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FORWARD TOGETHER

NO TURNING BACK!

Shanti: Passing From Darkness Into Light

Affection, Not Rejection, Is the Model

by Carol Landa

Not many people could hold Jim Geary's job. Fewer still could bring to it such unwavering dedication.

Jim Geary is the 34-year old director of the Shanti Project, a volunteer group that helps people with AIDS, their families and friends. Shanti is a Sanskrit word meaning inner peace and understanding. Its symbol is an eclipse—a passing from darkness into light. And that is what Jim Geary is all about.

"I enjoy working with people with life threatening illness—people who are dying," he said. "I use the word 'enjoy' because working with dying people enables me to go past my own fears and dying people are often insightful."

Geary has all too many opportunities to "enjoy" his work. Shanti has trained 2,500 volunteers, provided services to more than 1,200 AIDS sufferers and 2,400 of those close to them since its inception in 1974 as a project to help any terminally ill person.

Just as Shanti predates the AIDS epidemic, so does Jim Geary's concern for the dying. It began with the death of his grandmother when he was only 13. "She was dying of bone cancer but she wasn't told what was wrong. I went through the process with her and it was a very moving experience," he recalled.

He later worked with children who were victims of lead poisoning and leukemia, studied psychology at the University of Maryland, and moved to San Francisco in 1974 to become a nurse's aide at Marshall Hale Hospital. He volunteered immediately for the hospital's newly organized Shanti program, became its first gay staff member in 1979, and its director in 1982. At that time he worked without pay pending new funding for the then defunct organization.



pose, the project saves money by providing home services rather than expensive, extended hospital care.

It also serves as a model for 200 agencies in this country and has been used as an example in Sweden, Puerto Rico, Denmark, and Germany. "We're not interested in becoming a MacDonald's," Geary joked. "We provide volunteer training for other organizations but they remain autonomous."

Geary, though in a deadly serious business, does maintain a sense of humor and perspective. He is articulate but favors popular psychology jargon. He is business-like, but dressed casual chic for the interview. Sporting a pastel patterned shirt and baggy pants, he was comfortable enough to take off his shoes and sit cross-legged throughout the conversation.

'What people need most is friendship. And that's the hardest thing to give.'

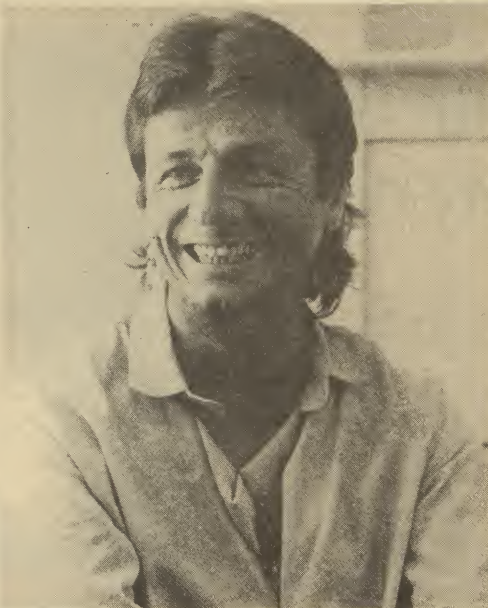
—Jim Geary

In November, 1981, Shanti saw its first AIDS case. Because of the growing clientele and the funding considerations, Shanti now deals exclusively with AIDS victims. "I had a sense that the AIDS epidemic was going to explode and public money would become available," Geary said.

He was right. The project, started with a \$57,000 grant, now has a budget of \$1.8 million mostly from the city, a paid staff of 44, and 360 active volunteers. In addition to its humanitarian pur-

"Affection, not rejection, is the model," said Geary, who knows that dying people often feel shunned. "What people need most," he said, "is friendship. And that's often the hardest thing to give."

Indeed, only one third of those who ask about volunteering actually go through the training process. They must first fill out a lengthy essay-oriented application form. Shanti screens out people with their own spiritual agendas or those who are op-



Jim Geary

posed to traditional medical practices. The next step in the process is a personal interview which involves some role playing and then the actual training which lasts 44 hours over two weekends.

"It's difficult," said Geary "because people must deal with unresolved grief, sexual stereotypes, and the fear of catching the disease."

People with AIDS often act as "training facilitators" in groups of four to six, forcing would-be volunteers to confront their fears directly and immediately. There

is about a seven percent voluntary dropout rate after training.

Geary notes it can be a problem if the volunteer becomes too involved with the patient. Shanti provides mandatory weekly support groups for its volunteers, which makes it possible for them to do the work. It asks for a six month commitment of six hours per week but has many volunteers with three or more years experience with Shanti.

The helpers can choose to work with family and friends or to provide practical support such as grocery shopping or house

cleaning. The project encourages all volunteers to work directly with AIDS patients. They have to sit a death watch, hold a person's hand, and say goodbye at the end. In spite of such demands, Geary does not see Shanti volunteers as extraordinary people. "They're just willing to get in touch with their emotions and be authentic," he said.

Geary has some controversial ideas of his own. He thinks people with AIDS should have sex because the intimacy can be healing. He has had sexual relations with AIDS sufferers. "But it must be safe," he adds.

He also thinks gay bathhouses should stay open. "It's not the place, but what you do there. People should have the right to gather and the bathhouse is a fertile place for education. You don't want to lose the opportunity to work with someone who can be educated as to appropriate sexual practices."

Though he still runs to the doctor with a swollen gland or a wart, he has not been tested for HTLV-3 antibody. "I've already made the necessary changes in lifestyle and there's nothing the test has to offer me personally," he said.

Geary is adamant in stating that safe sexual practices are the responsibility of the whole community and not just its homosexual component. "We must focus on sexual activity and not just sexual orientation," he said.

Said Geary, "We break down stereotypes and stress the human side. The greatest moment is when you are not seeing the AIDS, you are seeing the person. That's our goal and that's what Shanti is all about," he said. ●

Greg Day

(Continued from page 45)

"I have a degree in cultural anthropology with an emphasis on black studies," said Day. "I got involved in civil rights causes in the South a long time ago and even had a chance to march with Martin Luther King, Jr."

Today, he's marching with the kids of Larkin Street Youth Center, the kids—who, because of sexual orientation or abusive home situations—are kids without homes. Day thinks some of these kids are tomorrow's leaders.

"Young people are our future," he said, whether they are gay men, lesbians, or straight. They are our future adults. They will be in positions of power and will have a chance to change attitudes. It is important to help them now when they need us the most."

According to Day, the work of the gay and lesbian community with the Larkin Street kids is just another example of a stereotype being torn to shreds.

"There has been a great lie told about us," said Day. "That lie is that we can't be trusted around children. But it is a lie because of all of us who are teachers and doctors and nurses and social workers, among other things."

The Larkin Street Youth Center has become a big part of

Day's life for some time. He said he first noticed the problems of youth when he was running for supervisor in 1982. Soon, he found himself volunteering his time for various youth groups around the city. Finally, he found himself lobbying for a new organization, the Larkin Street Youth Center.

It finally happened in February, 1984," said Day. "The mayor [Mayor Dianne Feinstein] really embarrassed me at the ribbon-cutting ceremony. She referred to me as a 'convincing and pleasant lobbyist.' I really got red in the face."

There will have to be a new ribbon-cutting ceremony in the future. The Larkin facility suffered through a \$30,000 fire recently. A fundraising drive has netted over \$30,000, according to Day, who emphasized that at least \$50,000 will be needed to get either remodeling for the facility or a new, expanded facility.

Day has been heartened by the support of the gay and lesbian community for Larkin's rebuilding project. He thinks support of lesbians and gays for the betterment of the community is nothing new, however.

"We have a tradition of stewardship in the gay and lesbian community," said Day. "Even Walt Whitman nursed soldiers during the Civil War. We've made our commitments silently, but

now is the time to make these commitments more openly.

"We have a lot of expertise to offer society in terms of child-care, the rearing of a child, employment, etc. We have a strength and knowledge to share, but we're much too introverted. We don't realize our power and gifts."

Realizing one's power and gifts is part of Day's philosophy of life, a philosophy which emphasizes a positive attitude. He thinks having this positive attitude will be the strength of a time when AIDS looms over the community.

"We can use this terrible crisis of AIDS to move ahead on all fronts," said Day. "This is where getting involved in the community makes all the difference in the world. We just have to start getting involved in community work because we can't tell how long we have. We have to say, 'Just do it, baby.'"

"One thing which always seems to be true with gay and lesbian people is that we have a passion for life," Day added. "We're great in developing careers. We love to have a party and we love to fight for the right causes. Well, I think that we have to get right back in there, fight like hell, and party like hell."

Undoubtedly, Greg Day would remember that it only took him three days in San Francisco to start practicing that philosophy. ●

FORWARD TOGETHER

NO TURNING BACK!

Size Queens of Another Sort

Those With Girth Find Plenty of Mirth

by Will Snyder

The disco beat was intense, pounding, never-ending. "Harmony, harmony, you and me, that's harmony," belted out singer Suzy Lane.

Cigarette smoke slowly worked its way up to the ceiling, creating a haze against the brightly-colored Tiffany lamps in the corner of the bar. Young men in their tight 501's and Reeboks and Izods leaned against walls, staring hungrily at each other. It was Saturday night and Suzy Lane was prodding them to reach out for a little harmony.

Harvey worked his way to the back of the bar, saw the buttons fly all around and dreamed of conquest and then love and then conquest and then love. This was his kind of crowd. He took a deep breath, strove mightily to readjust his shirt so his weight didn't look too heavy and then began The Hunt.



(Photo: R. Pruzan)

He sidled up next to a young man with raven-colored hair, dressed in a pink and white pinstripe shirt and faded Levis. Harvey always felt so out of place in these kinds of places, but he felt he had to try to meet people.

He stole a glance at the lad. No response. Harvey's eyes wandered around the room until they came back to Roger Raven. He stole another glance at the lad. Still no response.

He gave his eyes another tour of the room. He saw someone

else shaking hands with another guy. That was it, he thought to himself. He looked at Roger again and didn't take his eyes off him. Finally, Roger turned to Harvey, who stumbled with his words.

"Er, nice weather we're hav-

ing tonight, huh?"

Roger heaved a deep sigh and said with a sneer, "Don't waste your time."

Roger tugged up his 501's and took up residence in the opposite corner of the room.

SUPER CHUBBIES

DeWayne Kammerdiener hasn't always been fat. There were times, he said, when he was a slim young thing.

"I used to have the perfect physique," he says with only a touch of nostalgia in his soft, lyrical Texas drawl. "I used to have a 27-inch waist.

"But I also know," he added, "that I had been fighting my weight all of my life. I fought and fought and fought. Finally, I realized I could be happy and comfortable the way I am now."

The way DeWayne is now is as a "chubbette." That term describes a person who is usually between 200-280 pounds. "Chubbette" is one of three categories Girth and Mirth—the club DeWayne presides over as president—uses to describe different levels of heavy-set gay and bisexual men who make up the

a lot of gorgeous young guys who come to the club who are chubby chasers.

"Chubbies don't have to have anyone they don't want."

Tony pointed to one young man who had just joined the club a short time ago. This fellow, according to DiGenova, is a perfect example of how Girth and Mirth can really put a lot more mirth in the life of someone with girth.

"He's only 23," said Tony, "but here's a young man who had—for all practical purposes—given up on himself because life seemed so futile and lonely. But when he saw an ad for us in *B.A.R.*, he paid his dues before he even came to a meeting; he was so eager to meet people.

"Now, he's the belle of the party," Tony added with a chuckle. "He has every chaser and even a few chubbies chasing after him."

TONS OF MEN

Kammerdiener could empathize with "LaBelle." He came into Girth and Mirth after a tragedy in his life. His association with the group has brought

"I had been fighting my weight all my life. I fought and fought. Finally, I realized I could be happy and comfortable the way I am now."

membership. The other levels are "chubby" (280-380 pounds) and "super-chubby" (380 pounds and above).

Girth and Mirth is ten years old this year. For a decade, the club—with different types of chapters all over the United States—has served as an alternative social organization for men such as DeWayne and for that matter, Harvey. "Harvey" is fictional as far as this story goes, but there are many people like him. "Harvey" may seem like a nuisance to many people in bars, but members of Girth and Mirth say "Harvey" has every bit the same interests and desires as his slimmer fellow bar patrons.

"People think that because some people are fat, they just 'settle' for people their own weight, or buy a hustler," said Kammerdiener. "That isn't the case at all."

There is a reason for that, according to Kammerdiener and another Girth and Mirth, Tony DiGenova. The latter is, in the jargon of big men organizations, a "chubby chaser."

"Opposites do attract, there's no doubt about that," said DeWayne. "No two chasers are alike. Some chasers want their lovers to get heavy. Some chubbies find out they are *not* outcasts. They can get anything they want."

DiGenova, who said he had his first "chubby-chasing" experience when he was 32 years old, agreed that chubbies really do have an option that bars do not offer. That option is Girth and Mirth.

"Some feel that the chubby will only go to the hustler," said Tony, "but with Girth and Mirth, they have an option. What they really find out is that there are

him a lot of good feeling.

"I had a lover for a long time," he said, "and then I lost him in a car accident. I just didn't feel like meeting people or doing anything for a long time.

"One year later," he added, "I had my first experience with a chubby club. I was living in Texas at the time. I met a guy from Philly who was in the New York chapter. He made me feel good about my body.

"He helped me get over the loss of Richard and get on with my life."

From that experience, DeWayne plunged into the hard work that makes any organization a success. He has been president for one year and is running unopposed for re-election. During that time, he has tried to steer the organization from internal political arguments back to what he considers the main goal of the club.

"We're a social organization," he said. "We want to have friends and we want to have fun."

That prerequisite means hosting parties and Girth and Mirth loves its parties. Recently, the organization hosted a national big men's convention at the Grosvenor Hotel. A highly successful pool party was held over the Memorial Day weekend. In August, another convention will be held in the Bay Area.

That convention will draw tons of men into town. The organization has similar chapters throughout the nation with strong chapters in Los Angeles, Chicago, Washington, and New York. All of the men would be quick to echo the words of Tony DiGenova.

(Continued on next page)

FORWARD TOGETHER NO TURNING BACK!



"The Belle of the Ball" (l.) with Tony DiGenova

(Continued from previous page)

Maybe the Izod crowd would disagree with Tony's words, but G&Mers don't care.

"When a chaser sees a chubby he likes, he can't get his eyes off of him," says Tony. "His eyes will attract to the chubby's eyes and will follow him down the street."

In other words, people are attracted to people. It's not always 501 to 501. Sometimes, it 501 to Omar the Tentmaker.

So much obviously depends on the personality," said Kammerdiener, "but my experience has been that a chaser wants someone who is not ashamed of his weight, or his body, someone who is pleased with his body."

Harvey had had enough. It was 2 a.m. He was tired and a little tipsy. He always considered himself a sensitive man and a kind man. He could understand people who weren't attracted to him, but the hostility hurt.

He unlocked the door to his car and climbed in. When he

flipped on the radio, he got a disco song. He forgot that he had put his radio dial on that station to psyche himself for his big night.

He angrily flipped the dial to nowhere in particular. He stumbled across Mickey Gilley:

'Now he's the belle of the party. He has every chaser and even a few chubbies chasing after him.'

"Looking for love in all the wrong places. Looking for love in too many faces."

Indeed.

But no more, he thought. He was the first to admit that he wasn't the stereotypical matinee idol. But he was himself.

And, that's all that really counted. ●

'Parents Come Out' To Be Broadcast

The story of eight parents facing the challenge of accepting their gay and lesbian children will be told on Friday, June 27 at 8:30 p.m. when KQED/Channel 9 broadcasts *Parents Come Out*.



(Photo: Rink)

The program takes the viewer from the parents' earliest days after "finding out," through "the hardest part"—facing the lonely struggle to understand, to deal with guilt and shame—and ultimately to the point of personal and familial reconciliation, and for some, acceptance.

Psychologists Aaron Cooper and Pat Blumenthal produced the show locally for *Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG)*, a self-help group run by parents with branches throughout the country. Director Robert Tat supervised the technical production at the Bay Area Video Coalition, with funds from the Vanguard Public Foundation and the Chicago Resource Center.

"I, too, had to come out of the

closet," acknowledges one mother, looking back to her own evolution in learning to accept her son's homosexuality.

The parents talk about shame, guilt, and years of isolation while they gradually educated themselves, met other gay people, and began to replace age-old stereotypes with accurate information.

"When my daughter first brought her lover to the house, I was very uncomfortable," states one parent. "But I knew I wanted her to come more often. That was the only way. And when parents say to me, 'I'm so uncomfortable walking down Castro Street,' I say 'Do it more often!'"

KQED-TV is the first station to purchase the program for local

broadcast. Judging by the strong interest expressed by other stations and preview audiences, *Parents Come Out* is likely to be seen throughout the country by the end of the year.

"The publicity surrounding AIDS has raised everyone's awareness of homosexuality," observes Blumenthal, a therapist in private practice in Palo Alto.

Jim Foster

(Continued from page 41)

tion. They went to the convention with the intent of founding a gay caucus. He chuckles as he recalls that they didn't have enough delegates to form the caucus so the original gay caucus was mostly straight.

By the McGovern Presidential Campaign in 1972 the club had grown to 50 or 60 members. He recalled being ignored by the official McGovern campaign as well as the Democratic Central Committee. "The only time they talked to us was when they came to ask why we were not active in supporting Ron Pelosi for State Senator against Republican Milton Marks. I told them that Milton deals with the gay issue and Ron doesn't."

But knowing that a Democratic political club is expected to toe the line, he invited them to leave some Pelosi signs. They did and Jim promptly put them into the closet.

His most dramatic political experience, however, was as the Northern California campaign manager for Sen. Edward Kennedy in 1980. He had met Kennedy in 1974 while executive director of the Whitman-Radcliffe Foundation. He was introduced by San Francisco's current Deputy Mayor, Hadley Roff, who was Kennedy's press secretary at the time.

"I wanted his support for drug money from the National Institute of Health and for our advertising campaign." He recalls that Kennedy was helpful

always but concerned at first about being too upfront.

They met again in 1979 at a party given by San Franciscan Adolph Schuman. "I told him we had to get rid of Carter," Jim also knew that in order to win the California primary, at least 750,000 votes had to be taken out of Northern California. "No one else seemed to be doing the job so it just fell on me," Jim recalls.

And a spectacular job he did. Although there was no money for television or for direct mail, through a classic grass roots campaign and door-to-door canvassing, Kennedy carried California by 60 percent and by an even greater margin up here.

Jim Foster has served two mayors, being appointed by Mayor George Moscone to the Special Committee on Commissions and by Mayor Dianne Feinstein to the Elections Commission. He worked in the Carter/Mondale Campaign in 1980.

Foster's depth of work in the political and social fields as they relate to the gay movement makes him eminently qualified to undertake his most challenging task thus far, that of San Francisco's Health Commission, in the midst of the AIDS epidemic.

"I lobbied Dianne hard for the job," Foster says referring to Mayor Feinstein.

Although not certain of the role he would play, "I just wanted to be where I could make a difference."

Make a difference, Jim Foster has. He was instrumental in getting \$400,000 from the state for substance abuse treatment, without which 18th Street Services

They also hope that gay men and women will rent or purchase this program to show to their own families.

To obtain a copy of *Parents Come Out*, contact P-FLAG, Post Office Box 640223, San Francisco, CA 94164, or ask for it at your neighborhood video store. ●

might not be alive. He serves on the legislative budget task force, having been appointed by Assemblyman John Vasconcellos and having been charged with the task of studying and reacting to the governor's budget on AIDS funding.

He feels that the Health Commission is responding magnificently to the AIDS epidemic. "There is no entity in the country as responsive to the problem as the San Francisco Health Commission," Foster says that the creation of the Health Commission subsequent to the passage of Prop. C [1984] has allowed the Health Department to provide quicker and more direct access for minorities. He feels that bureaucracy has been simplified and the efficiency increased.

At the same time, he candidly admits to his sense of frustration as "I watched the dismantling of the public health system by the Reagan and Deukmejian administrations."

For a lifetime of public service, Jim Foster has received the Certificate of public service, Jim Foster has received the Certificate of Honor from the California State Senate and State Assembly. He was awarded a Certificate of Merit by the City and County of San Francisco and a Certificate of Honor by the City of Los Angeles. In 1982, Alice celebrated its 10th anniversary, boasting a membership of over 500. The event was dedicated to Jim.

We've come a long way since those early days when you got arrested for dancing with your lover. Much of that progress can be attributed to Jim Foster. ●

SUMMER BOOKS

Barbara Grier

The Force Behind Naiad Press

by Gerald Lebonati

"My work is my life," says Barbara Grier, owner and nurturing force behind Naiad Press, the largest and oldest lesbian publishing house in the world. Such a position may seem formidable to those who remember when being gay meant remaining on the lower rungs of the political ladder and searching like crazy to find anything to read on gay issues.

"I wanted a woman to be able to walk into any bookstore and find the material that she needed to make her feel good about herself. I have spent my entire life determined to bring people to books and books to people."

Her calm, casual manner belies 40 years of involvement in activism.

"I've lived through all of the 'isms' in the movement," she says matter-of-factly, "when gay men and lesbians were friendly and then, again, when they wouldn't even stay on the same side of the street with each other." She is working toward a time when the community will unify and become a vital force for equality. "I become angry when there is in-fighting. The power structure is so minimal, why spread it around?"

Under Grier's guidance, Naiad press has become a respected institution within the publishing world. Their most recent cause for celebration was the release of the movie *Desert Hearts* based on the Naiad book, *Desert of the Heart*, by close friend Jane Rule.

"This is going to have a tremendous impact on us. The tie to lesbian publishing is very important. Sam Goldwyn bought the film when it was being shown at the festivals and he is going to put it in every major city in the United States. More people will be exposed to a positive lesbian story than ever before."

It would be difficult to deny the positive contributions Barbara Grier has made to the movement, yet the spectre of the *Lesbian Nuns* controversy still remains. It has been more than a year since she sold the publishing rights to *Forum Magazine* and some women are still upset by the move.

"I made a mistake," Grier states frankly and without hesitation. "We didn't even know that *Forum* was published by *Penthouse*." Since then, *Lesbian Nuns* has been translated into almost every major language around the world, has made its way into the Vatican, and has been hailed as a startling international success.

It is ironic that Naiad, an exclusively gay establishment, is located in a small community outside of Tallahassee, Florida. One can only imagine how the local lesbians are seen in the eyes of the 39,000 rural residents.

"Very well, actually," Barbara chuckles. "But there's a reason. I have a formula which is really applicable to anyone. And it is that no one can be oppressed if you don't allow yourself to be. We're completely open. I don't mean being aggressive about it because no matter how uncloseted you are, there are levels within closets. It doesn't have anything to do with running up to little old ladies and saying (her voice deepens) I am a lesbian." She then refers to her spouse of many years, Donna J. McBride, "We behave as if we

are a couple. Whatever they call that is up to them. People will come up to me and say, 'What kind of publishing do you do?' and I say, 'Well, we publish novels and biographies, et cetera.' And if they ask further, I smile and say, 'We are the oldest and largest lesbian publishing house in the world.' What can they say to that?"

"One of the other reasons that we're treated so well is that we're good neighbors. We run all of our postal business through the local post office. So we probably support two postal workers. If you treat people well, they will respond. They don't see us as a political threat," she laughs. "We look terribly respectable."

Mainstream publishing houses produce their share of gay literature. In fact, many gay blockbusters have been produced by non-gay companies whose primary concern is dollar return rather than a desire for political leveling.

"Basically, it's a case of gross indifference," Grier said. "They don't really care. Though rife with lesbian and gay literature, they want to target the mass markets. No way on earth can we say that gays and lesbians make up the bulk of the population. Even the most homophobic estimates now put us at about 10 percent."

"And mainstream houses don't have the ability to reach gay audiences. We get mail with comments like, 'Thank God, I've found you.' I doubt that St. Martin's ever receives mail like that. We're a jug of water in a desert—an oasis."

But like everything else, publishing is a business in which one has to do what is necessary to survive.

"We turn down books now that we would have loved to publish when we began. We produce only ten books a year. Several other publishing companies started out at the same time we did, but they're gone."

Since coming out in 1946 at the age of 13, Barbara Grier has faced life with a positive outlook. She remembers times when books were being burned and hints that such a time could easily repeat itself—which is, perhaps, why she is so staunchly opposed to censorship in any form. But she sees these conservative swings as historical fluctuations and visualizes a future where the equality of all people is self-evident.

"I'm happy about being a lesbian," Grier says confidently. "It's a privilege and an honor."

Editor's note: Gerald Lebonati is a freelance writer and the author of *Tropic Lights*.



Church Documents on Homosexuality Published

New Ways Ministry, a national Catholic Gay ministry group located near Washington, D.C., announced here today the publication of *Homosexuality and the Magisterium*, a collection of Vatican and U.S. official Catholic teachings on homosexuality which have been issued by church authorities since 1975.

The anthology, the first of its kind ever published, contains some 20 complete or excerpted official Catholic statements, pastoral letters, plans for ministry and other documentation from Roman congregations, the U.S. National Conference of Catholic Bishops, individual cardinals, archbishops and bishops as well as individual diocesan organizations.

Among contributors to *Homosexuality and the Magisterium* are the Vatican's Congregations for the Doctrine of the Faith and Catholic Education, the United States Catholic Conference, the Archdiocese of Baltimore, the Washington State Catholic Conference, the Archdiocese of San Francisco and the Catholic hierarchy of Massachusetts.

According to John Gallagher, New Ways Ministry's director of communications and editor of the book, one purpose of the collection is "to help Catholics realize that the church's teaching on homosexuality goes far beyond the single issue of homogenital or same sex expres-

sions." According to Gallagher, "too many Catholics including some church authorities collapse all church teaching on homosexuality to one narrow issue while paying only lip service to other equally important moral issues of social justice for homosexual citizens and church members."

Gallagher commented that church teaching on the moral evil of discrimination and the increasing evidence of physical and psychological violence against homosexual persons especially in light of the recent AIDS crisis and the church's teachings on pastoral care are serious parts of official church teachings "which

unfortunately are often ignored," when the topic is discussed.

"This ambiguous and one-sided approach," he said, "although completely orthodox in one way, is a more serious and harmful distortion of church teaching on homosexuality." Gallagher also said he hoped the new book will help people broaden their appreciation of some of the very helpful and positive things that the church says on homosexual people and help some church leaders get beyond their "fixation on homogenital behaviors."

He also pointed to a statement in the book by Richmond's Bishop Walter Sullivan who wrote that pastoral care is especially urgent "in those cases where the teaching of the church has itself been presented in such a way that it has been the source or occasion of some of the pain and alienation that many homosexual Catholics experience today."

Further information on the new work can be obtained from the organization at 4012 29th St., Mt. Rainier, Maryland, 20712, (301) 277-5674. Individual copies are priced at \$9.95 plus \$1 for postage and handling. ■

FORWARD TOGETHER NO TURNING BACK!

Fingerprints That Can't Be Denied

Entertainment for a Master

by John Preston
Alyson Publications, \$7.95
by Mark I. Chester

Creating art is like leaving telltale signs of a crime. The artist leaves behind fingerprints that can't be denied. Individual, particular, and unique, they reveal the personal: inner thoughts and secrets. In doing so, artists stand alone as a group that is not only allowed to but expected to publicly reveal themselves. *Entertainment for a Master* is undoubtedly revealing.

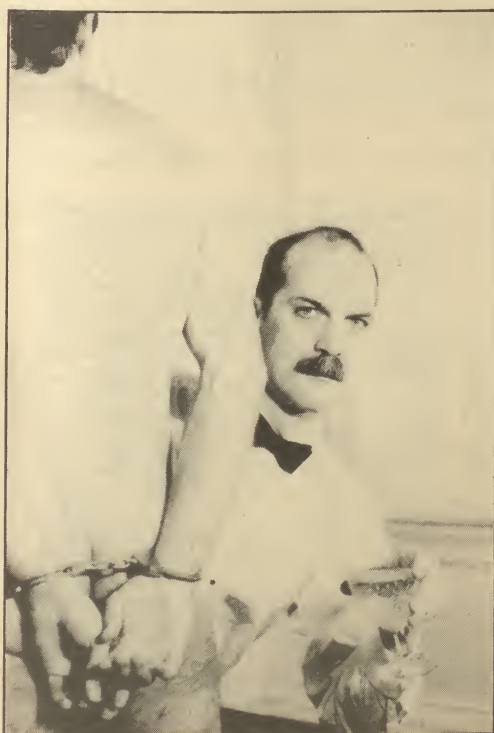
Preston holds a unique place in the history of literature by homosexual men. Never before has a homosexual man written prose so openly, under his own name, about the sexual realities and fantasies of his homoeroticism. A wild blend of pornography, sweet remembrance, and philosophy, Preston takes us even further in his literary revelation of his sadomasochism than he did in *Once I Had a Master*. That series of short stories, bound together by themes of sexual exploration and growth (and successful sales), has been followed by a work with high goals, only some of which have been reached.

Entertainment for a Master is a public sharing about a dinner party put together by Preston for three of his friends, gathered to attend a book convention in San Francisco. Told chronologically, Preston describes the action from the appearance of an ad seeking "well built and attractive [men], willing and able to perform servile tasks and endure moderate to heavy pain" to his sexual interviews of prospective slaves, and his elaborate preparations for the party.

Preston is at his best in his descriptions of the intricacies of sexual interactions and the underlying psychological storms and potentialities that make up the true essence of eros. His writing is smooth, taut, and clean—filled with descriptions of sadomasochistic acts that ring with a skilled simplicity. There is enough here to jackoff to: tweaked nipples, beautiful bodies, bondage, beaten asses and backs, twisted balls, jerking and spilling cocks, and sexual abandon. Those inexperienced in the S/M subculture may find the jackoff physical. More knowledgeable men may find the jackoff more intellectual.

But Preston understands that only part of eros is the sex act itself, the description of physical release. An equally important part of eros usually ignored or misunderstood by assembly line photographers, involves the emotional connections and small moments that bind people together when they have shared sexual ecstasy.

Martin was crying, I had reached inside someplace and found something that he didn't want to give up but he realized it was too late. He was sitting on my lap, suddenly a little boy and not the aggressive military male he had presented himself as. He was naked. I had somehow gotten my clothes on. I was rubbing his back. I held him tightly. It was so late; why wasn't I tired? But I don't remember that. I only remember his head on my



John Preston (r.), doing research for *Entertainment for a Master* (Photo: D. Elze)



An example of Michael A. Rosen's work in *Sexual Magic: The SM Photographs*.

shoulder and the thought that I never wanted to be anywhere else, ever.

In doing so, Preston expands the range of homoerotic pornography, revealing his heart as much as his dick.

At the same time Preston breaks down stereotypical images of sadomasochism and the people who do it. Intensity is matched by tenderness. Pain is matched by pleasure. Solemnity is matched by laughter. The image of the sadistic slobbering pervert brute is crushed by the slender strength and elegance of Preston's master.

People who are appalled by intense sexuality—the kind that comes clothed in leather and chains and wears whips and handcuffs—usually are so agitated by it that they make many false assumptions. The worst is the idea that there are no emotions involved in it. Their vision of love is one that is filled with roses and gentle sea waves, breezes through pine trees on pristine mountain tops. When the acts they witness are really hurricanes carrying flaming winds, they can only think they're seeing destruction. They can't perceive the truth—that it is often a more powerful event than anything they have ever imagined.

Preston challenges us to take a second look at the world around us; to look at those places where institutionalized violence and non-sexual servitude are not only acceptable, but encouraged, applauded, and highly rewarded.

It is in this philosophizing that Preston's work structurally and emotionally takes a step beyond *Once I Had a Master*. We are not only treated to Preston's story, but in case we haven't gotten the message, Preston waxes repeatedly and philosophically on the real world and his status in it as an S/M master. Unfortunately, this tack is a major misstep for Preston because too often he begins to come across as a pretentious, piss-elegant leather queen with an overinflated ego.

(Continued on page 59)

Confronting S/M Sex

Sexual Magic: The S/M Photographs

by Michael A. Rosen
Shaynew Press (P.O. Box 11719, San Francisco, CA 94101)
\$23 (postpaid)
by Paul Reed

Those of us who are familiar with the images of sadomasochism and the leather community within the gay community will find in this book a foreign mix of vivid S/M photographs that remind us that S/M is a world unto itself, crossing all boundaries of gay/straight, male/female, white/black.

I found the photographs and the accompanying text to be rather disturbing. At first pass, I responded with a groan and dismissive feeling of discomfort. But in thinking my response through (in preparation to review the book), I had to confront my own dichotomous feelings about S/M.

We have become so accustomed to the raw, handsome image of leathersmen, adorned so charmingly, so enticingly, so nipped-and-tucked in their shiny black leather chaps and vests, perhaps laughing and joking at a beer bust or cruising on Saturday night—so accustomed that when exposed to what are plain, artistic renderings of the actual scene of S/M—where everyone is focused on the sexual expression at hand, not on the possibly macho-perfect reflection in a mirror or darkened window—we recoil in awe and suspicion at the utter truth of this radical form of human sexuality.

And I do believe S/M is a form of sexuality, not—as some of the commentators in this book suggest—a unique form of something else, human communication, power trips, the working out of neuroses. After all, these latter are all components of sexuality, subsets if you will, be it S/M, vanilla, or any of the many gradations between.

So, taken in that regard, within the context of radical human sexuality, the photographer of *Sexual Magic* exposes us to a "hidden" community of men and women who express their

sexuality in the sadomasochistic forum, and who eschew traditional sex as banal, and who, by virtue of their appearance in the book say: "Hey, take a look! We're not crazy, we're not demons. We're caring and loving people who want to take this sex thing to a different limit than organic rubbing."

And that is where the awe and suspicion come in. That is where the "utter truth" of S/M comes in. That's where we have to stop and consider our discomfort and the threat of non-charming S/M images and realize that sex—of any safe, consensual kind—is okay. For that is the ultimate truth about radical sexualities. That is the part that makes us so uptight—that the physicalities of sex, that the emotional/intellectual celebrations of two people coming together (with love and responsibility and caring, of course) is simply, in and by itself, perfectly acceptable.

This always goes against the grain of our consciousness—our ideology—in this culture of sound Christian values intermixed with a touch of zen and a heap of Calvinism. Because even when we free ourselves from the guilt of being adults, even when we free ourselves of all the fears and shames of our sexuality, our animal nature, our mortality, we still think in prevailing Christian modes—that there is right and wrong sex, that there are better and worse ways to have sex, that loving and caring and sensuality can really be expressed in only one or two ways.

S/M, then, and its true images, force us to confront folks and ideas that assert this ain't so. So while the photographs in this book still make me shudder in discomfort, I say: Go see them. That shudder of discomfort is a valuable and instructive thing. It forces us to realize that there is a great need to confront the habits and ideologies that can trap us all. ●

FORWARD TOGETHER

NO TURNING BACK!

Gay Pride in Asian Dress

Mosaic: Solo-Body, Duo-Sex

Photographs by Hiroshi Showji

by Mark I. Chester

As we approach Gay Pride Day, it is sometimes hard to understand that it means different things to be gay in different countries. In my teens, I spent a couple of summers in Chile. We were taken to the red light district, and were shown maricones and prostitutes. Maricones, or homosexuals, were men who dressed and lived as women. That was the only definition for a homosexual.

Japan is an even harder country to understand. Beyond a great language difference, there is a cultural difference that is almost unbridgeable. Homosexuality (meaning sex between males) is allowed as long as it is not public and it does not interfere with the traditional family setup. Probably the two most famous modern Japanese artists who explored homosexuality in a public manner were Yukio Mishima, the writer, filmmaker, and director whose autobiography *Confessions of a Mask* describes his homosexual desires, and Tomatso Yato, a photographer whose beautiful pictures of young Japanese males were featured in the book *Otoko*. It is not surprising that both of their families, to save face, deny and reject their homosexual personalities despite publicly printed work exploring just that.

So, I was most interested when I saw an ad for a new book of photographs by Japanese photographer Hiroshi Showji called *Mosaic: Solo-Body, Duo-Sex* which purported to show modern gay life in Japan. The paperback book, 8" x 11", is filled with rich, sumptuous color photographs of men dressed as women, mostly taken at a gay Japanese hot spot in Tokyo. On first glance through this book, I assumed these were pictures of women. Only on second glance, and a closer inspection, did I begin to see signs that these were actually men dressed as women.

The "women" are shown cavorting and having a good time, in erotically tinged photographs that approach the centerfolds



A geisha and her doll in *Mosaic: Solo-Body, Duo-Sex*, photographs by Hiroshi Showji

of men's magazines. In portraits with boyfriends and in parades out on the street, their dress covers the full range from modern Western clothing to traditional geisha kimono and wig.

There are also images that on closer inspection are specifically transvestite photographs: a young man shown close up has a new covering of facial hair just showing on his face, another young man shown in an erotically tinged photograph has a horizontal slit just below the tit—apparently from a breast enlargement operation, and images of men dressed as women that don't quite pass.

Most surprising of all are a series of quotes in Japanese, also appearing in English. While I can't speak to the appropriateness of the translations, they provide an image of homosexuality those of us here in the U.S. will relate to as negative.

One young man putting on female makeup says, "Women are feline and I don't like them. But the man I like wants women. So, for the man I love, I've become one of those women I hate." Another man says, "If I were to be born again... I'd like to be a man who feels like a man, a woman who feels like a woman inside." They are sad statements by people who don't fit into the culture to which they were born, anywhere.

At the same time, other statements speak to a blend of male and female that is unique. One man says, "Those who have totally become women are not gay. You're gay if you're a blend of man and woman." And another one that says "Why do you have to be either a man or a woman? One and not also the other?" These statements are obviously more positive and accepting of the life into which they were born.

Mosaic is an unusual book that contradicts our image of ourselves as gay men and lesbians, happy to be the people that we were born to be. Copies can be ordered from Kinokuniya Book Stores of America Co., Ltd., Weller Court Shopping Center, 123 W. Weller St., Suite 106, Los Angeles, CA 90012 for \$43.35 postpaid. Allow six weeks for delivery.

Once More with—What?

Quatrefoil

by James Barr, with an Introduction by Samuel Steward
Alyson Publications, \$7.95

by Marv. Shaw

We have undoubtedly gay classics. Mann's *Death in Venice* and Gide's *The Immoralist* are two Steward cites in his introduction. More recent works by Vidal and Capote aspire to classic status. Alyson's cover blurb calls Barr's novel "a classic work of gay writing." Is it truly? Before we measure, we must see what's there, all the while remembering the novel has been published three times, beginning in 1950.

In 1946 Phillip Froelich is about to stand a court martial for insubordination to his ships' captain, an incompetent slob. Enter Commander Timothy Danelaw, ten years older than Phillip and much wiser. Danelaw soon begins guiding, pulling strings, and pushing buttons for his new young friend. But there are complications: a pushy fiancée, a jealous wife, a weaselly Naval attorney, and many more. And of course there is in Phillip himself a horror of what he suspects is his true nature. Hanging over everything is the pall we now identify as societal homophobia. The melodrama builds, with various romantic and psychological infusions.

On two counts then, *Quatrefoil* is a novel of its time, that of 40 years ago when homosexuality was unquestionably criminal and psychologically degenerate—and no real man would accept his own gayness. In 1986 we must still acknowledge homophobic virulence, even from some sophisticated people. Internalized homophobia is something else again. When the protagonists acidly

protest against the effeminate, they become psychological bigots and stain their own supposedly heroic characters. Barr, under his real name of Fugate, was said to be an oil derrick rigger, more macho than thou, and that might be the source of the problem.

But does *Quatrefoil* reach a level of universality which would bring it classic status and make the period characteristics mere quibbles? On one count—and a second related one—it certainly does. First, the tale of the boy achieving manhood is evergreen for all cultures. While Phillip is 23, Barr repeatedly refers to him as "the boy." For all his intelligence and bravado, Phillip is immature. Then too, Tim as loving mentor is a staple in the manhood achievement story. The homosexual presence gives the novel a distinction that is more than a mere embellishment.

Not everything contributes. Some characters, like Phillip's intended Southern belle bride, are flat indeed. Coincidence reduces credibility a bit. In his conniving and petulant thrashing, Phillip, for all his multiple virtues, often becomes a snobbish pain in the ass. Tim, in his mentor role, sometimes turns too omniscient to be believed. The cover photo, in direct imitation of Flandrin's painting "Naked Youth by the Seaside," has only a marginal appropriateness.

So has Alyson done international gaydom a service by this issue? Though we all realize this third appearance has a basic and respectable commercial motive, the answer is a qualified "yes." Though probably not a classic, *Quatrefoil* has historical value, if only as a point at which gay men started assuming a different character.

QUATREFOIL



A NOVEL BY JAMES BARR
INTRODUCTION BY SAMUEL STEWARD



FORWARD TOGETHER

NO TURNING BACK!

Crowning Achievement

The Magnificent Spinster

by May Sarton
W.W. Norton; \$17.95
by Paul Reed

This novel could easily be re-titled "The Magnificent Novel," so great an achievement is it. Here May Sarton has really done it—this is the great big novel of women, of love, of friendships, and of passion that we have always known Sarton could turn out. Now she has, and readers will be delighted to find *Magnificent Spinster* a dense and thoroughly satisfying read.

But it's slow going. Sarton has chosen to intermix a number of narrative vantage points—first person, third person, historical, contemporary, dialogic, and journalistic—in what amounts to an intimate portrait of a fictional character, Jane Reid (based on the real Anne Thorpe). This woman is "the magnificent spinster."

Now, about the title, and about the book's theme. The idea of a magnificent spinster goes against the grain of our usual perceptions of that word, and of that state of being. "Spinster" inspires images of drawn, pinched, little old ladies, bookish types who were never able to marry, for whatever reasons.

But Sarton's "spinster" is utterly magnificent in her incredible ability to love and to give of herself in ways utterly different from the traditional routes of marriage, motherhood or even lesbian or mistress. No, Jane Reid is magnificent precisely because her life as shown here is completely independent of any of those roles, yet it is a life so rich and full of beauty the reader understands that there are many ways to live this life, and they do not always include—for whatever reasons—passionate love and/or sexuality.

This is an old message for the '80s, indeed, for this half of the century, where sexual and passionate involvement have become



the very definition of a "happy" or "fulfilled" life. Sarton shows how solitude, platonic friendship, deep love separate from eros, and irrepressible energy born of a giving spirit can sketch a life as rich and fulfilled as any.

And, at long last, Sarton does not shy away from lesbian love, or, to be more faithful to her viewpoint, does not shy away from love between women. For the novel's narrator, Cam (who is Sarton as plain as day), is herself involved with a woman lover of many years throughout the novel, and this relationship only brings

the spinster's own life into high relief.

The novel spans a long, long time, from before World War I through the 1970s. And throughout, Sarton is both accurate and evocative as we experience a changing world through these characters as they age. This is perhaps one of the more subtle strengths of the novel, this watch on the world through the 20th century. Because with each wave of history we see how the many characters respond, and this is a truly gifted device of letting us see character development.

But Sarton's portrait of the world, and of a life in the East prior to World War I, is evocative and poignant. She writes so well in the first section of the book—during this period—that the reader is filled with melancholy for a time when things were much different, and much better in many ways, in the ways that count—in measures of human warmth, friendship, compassion.

Perhaps the greatest weakness of the novel emerges toward the end. The final portrait—of life on Jane Reid's family's island—doesn't come as fully to life as it might. And in studying the text, it would seem the fault lies with a sudden decline in the individuality of the older characters. More specifically this can be traced to the dialog itself, wherein different characters speak with the same voice, using the same phrases, such as "It's a bit of luck . . ." or utilizing the same endearments. A minor matter this, but it led to a bit of confusion that weakened the closing chapter.

Nevertheless, this is May Sarton's crowning achievement, a thick novel of hearty themes, rendered evocatively, lovingly, and with great care and craft. ■

A Gay Spiritual Forefather

Towards Democracy

by Edward Carpenter
Gay Men's Press, \$10.95
by Marv Shaw

If you have ever been moved by the lusty vigor, identification with nature, manly love, and great range of compassion Walt Whitman conveyed, you will find this volume engrossing. Carpenter (1844-1929) knew and admired Whitman enormously. The great American original's influence beats throughout this work, but much here is Carpenter's own.

'lusty vigor!'

"Democracy" for Carpenter meant much more than a system of governance. The Whitmanesque idea of universal brotherhood was more like it. Additionally, Carpenter was most socialistic in his concept of democracy. Humankind's wealth and work were to be shared.

While still a young man, he gave up a lectureship in science to take up and farm a small holding, with the rest of his time devoted to writing—or loafing and inviting his soul, as his inspirer said.

The democratic-socialistic often merged with the mystic as he identified with nature and the forces of the universe. In "The Ocean of Sex," for example, he writes: "O wonderful Ocean of Sex, Ocean of millions and millions of tiny, seed-like human forms/ Contained (if truly they be contained) within each person, Mirror of the very uni-

verse/ Sacred temple and innermost shrine of each body/ . . ." The current emergence of the gay spirituality movement finds one of its connections with Carpenter in such passages.

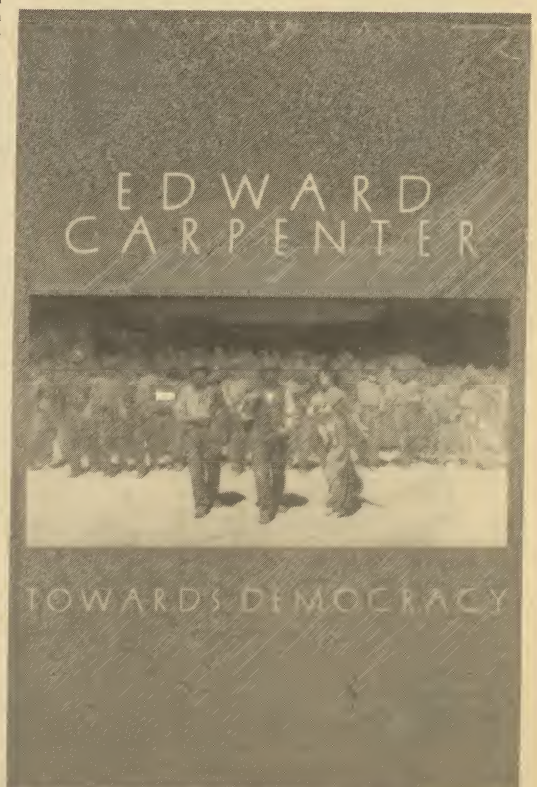
One of the poet's most surprising characteristics was his open espousal of gay love in the period that saw the Wilde trials, a terribly reactionary and homophobic time. Again, some of that expression was mystical, but the psychology of it was perceptive and explicit. For instance, in "O Child of Uranus," he writes: "Thy Woman-soul within a Man's form dwelling/ (Was Adam perchance like this, ere Eve from his side was drawn?) So gentle, gracious, dignified, complete/ With man's strength to perform, and pride to suffer without a sign/ And feminine sensitiveness to the last fibre of being/ . . ."

Even more startling is the expression of the earthy gay male experience in such poems as "Summer Heat," in which two men lie naked on the ground in the woods with ferns arching over them, and then finally, "Till with the midday sun scorching, smiting/ Up from their woodland lair they leap, and smite/ And strike with wands, and wrestle, and bruise each other/ In savage play and amorous despite."

Gay Men's Press is to be commended for bringing Carpenter's combination of courage, vision, and genius to today's readers. ■



May Sarton



FORWARD TOGETHER

NO TURNING BACK!

The Ambisexuals Come On

Casey, the Bi-Coastal Kid
by Jim Brogan
Equanimity Press, \$7.95
by Marv. Shaw

Step a few years into the future and meet Casey, who is entering his senior year of high school. The guy is bright, engaging, and pretty gutsy. He is at home on both coasts: Hastings, New York, and Cape Cod; Mill Valley and the Bay Area. But of even greater interest is the divided but harmonious consciousness we see him develop during this breakover year when his manhood is coming on fast and strong.

During his late childhood, his parents divorced, with his lawyer father re-marrying and staying in New York and his mother and her new husband re-establishing themselves in California. Casey lives most of the year with his father, then comes west for part of the summer here. He takes the shifts and the relations with all four parents in beautiful stride.

Brogan's conceit of placing the story in 1989-90 has nothing to do with science fiction. For one thing, the story is not all that far ahead in time, so there are no great technological differences or radical shifts in world order to worry about. What the author does want us to realize is that sexual orientation, which started its tentative drift toward ambivalence in a guarded way in the '70s, has now appeared much nearer the surface and more achievable.

Casey's prime loyalty is to Gloria, his teenaged sweetheart. The sophistication of these two is noticeably in advance of most of the adolescents we know, but otherwise, they are typical kids in love, making love and giving each other headaches. However,

that sophistication gives each the spur and permission to explore relations with each one's own sex. So Casey can get it on with Rob and Mark. Gloria can have sensual good times with older feminist women in Boston. Their own love does not suffer; it seems to grow richer.

Is Brogan just toying with a wish-fulfillment fantasy? Probably not. His work in teaching undergraduate English courses at San Francisco State for many years has put him close to the changing consciousness of the forthcoming generation. More likely, he sees Casey's generation as a natural development of those present and immediately past.

And our understanding of Casey is cleverly doubled. In addition to the narration coming to us just back of Casey's right shoulder, the lad himself is writing a journal-like novel about himself. So we see the protagonist both from within and from just outside.

Unfortunately, there are rough spots, passages in which unreality slips in. The dialogue sometimes sounds like Brogan rather than the characters supposedly speaking it. With Gloria and Casey that is frequently ok because they are, in one sense, teenagers talking over their heads, but the same thing happens with other characters too.

In sum, however, this new novel is a provocative piece quite worthy of attention. Name another book in which the central idea is the naturally developed bisexuality of the newest adult generation. ■

Sleuth with a Gay Difference

Gravedigger
by Joseph Hansen
Holt, Rinehart and Winston,
\$3.95 (paper)
by Marv. Shaw

Once again, Hansen's gay insurance detective Dave Brandstetter pulls us with him into that wild Southern California mix of the glamorous and shabby, the virtuous and sinister he probes for a living. This time, the turbulence is even heavier and the deceptions more vicious. Also, the characters and circumstances are decidedly gay-er than in previous novels.

Banner Insurance sets Dave to find Charlie Westover, who supposedly can claim death benefits on his daughter Serenity, alleged to be the victim of a desert sex guru named Azrael, who has killed other girls then ended in a fiery crash. But Westover has disappeared, and there is no proof that his daughter is dead.

Soon into the plot comes his adoring young black lover Cecil, a sometimes TV reporter. The passion that the middle-aged Dave shares with the rangy Cecil is both unique and convincing.

'We see how powerful same-sex love can be even when it must be hidden . . .'

Westover's embittered ex-wife, his strange musical genius of a son, a chically handsome young lawyer, and a furniture artist who was once Westover's closest friend are but four of the sharply limned characters who complicate Brandstetter's efforts.

As always, Hansen sets a brisk pace and saturates the varied scenes with a style that makes every detail live. A fair sample is his welcome to the mountain town of Buenos Vientos, where Westover's harpsichordist son might be: "In the little town, the windows of the cafe smiled yellow through the snowfall. It was only noon but the snowfall made it dark. He parked beside a battered pickup truck and entered the cafe through a door hung with little bells that jingled. The air inside was warm, steamy and smelled of cooking."

Beyond the compelling style, the surprising but logical plot, and the intriguing characters is the great bonus of *Gravedigger*—gay insights. We see how powerful same-sex love can be even when it must be hidden, how poisonously corrupting a luxurious seduction of an adolescent can be, and how vital to life is the love of an older white man and a black youth.

Get this one. It's a great read! ●

T.C. WORSLEY FELLOW TRAVELLERS



Into a Catalytic War

Fellow Travellers
by T.C. Worsley
Gay Men's Press, \$7.50
by Marv. Shaw

The title term has been used mostly negatively, especially by right wingers worldwide. Translated from the Russian *popuchliki*, it means those who go along with the philosophy and objectives of the Communists. Worsley's characters do that, but he means much more than politics here.

Set in Britain and Spain in the later '30s, his novel traces the often haphazard journey of five people toward some better self realization than they can find in the confusion of a Depression, a class-bound society, frequently violent political clashes, and a Europe skidding toward another hideous war.

Worsley calls the work a memoir rearranged to suit his intentions. Basically, it is a roman a clef, some of whose characters are easily recognizable. The bisexual poet and critic Stephen Spender is Martin Murray, a fact acknowledged by Spender himself. The feckless but brilliant young refugee from Oxford, Gavin Summers, is Giles Romilly, later to become a writer himself. Murray's sometimes inamorata, Harry, is Tony Hyndman, a Guardsman Spender got sprung from the service.

With the exception of Lady Nellie, who is probably modeled on the leftist aristocrat the Duchess of Atholl, the main figures are gay men. Their sexual and emotional inter-relationships flow and ebb, with no stable attachments. But they are all bound to each other by a strong sense of being of a kind. Another bond is their shared leftist politics.

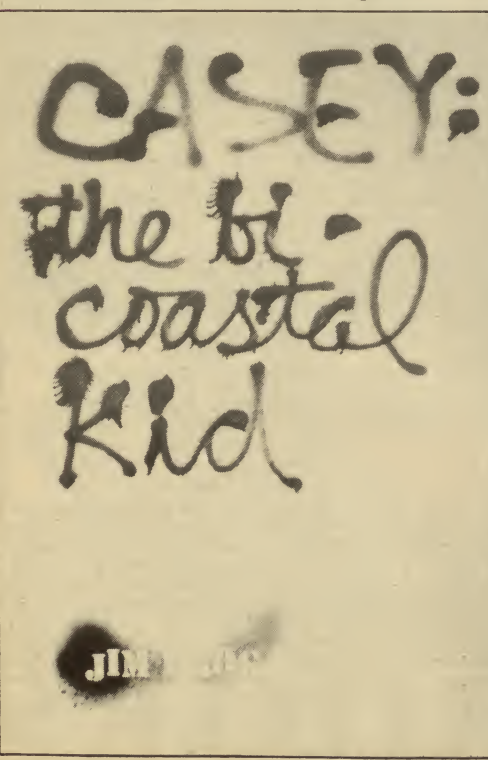
Socialistic ideals drew them, but joining the Communist Party, that ultimate step, both attracted and repelled them. However, as the civil war in

Spain flared and was obviously a contest between fascism and communism, Britain and France remained embarrassingly dilatory. In the face of that apathy, Worsley's people were catapulted into decision and action. Their involvement in the Spanish war changed them all profoundly.

Worsley constructs his novel in so-called "files," in each of which one of the characters tells what happens to him—but mostly how he analyzes the others. The shifts in point of view are handled well enough, but the effect is not unlike a TV documentary of talking heads. Episodes of real action are far outnumbered by monologues of personality assessment and prediction of reaction. However, Worsley knows his people well enough and makes their discourse penetrating and authentic.

The gayness is so taken for granted by so many that the reader is persuaded it must be the norm. It is here probably that Worsley is seriously misleading. From the vantage of 1971, when the book was first published, maybe it all seemed so, but it must be remembered that the period of the novel is 20 years before even the Wolfenden Report. It is hard to believe even bohemian Bloomsbury was so blase about homosexuality.

The gay aspect notwithstanding, Worsley, the effaced narrator, succeeds in his main intention: giving a unique but still characteristic picture of the '30s. Then as now, young people were reaching, sometimes nobly, sometimes mistakenly, toward the realization of ideals. The shadow then was a second world war. The shadow now is nuclear annihilation. The struggles are similar, the human outcomes also often the same. ■



FORWARD TOGETHER

NO TURNING BACK!

A Gay Elder's Positive Essays

How Can You Come Out If You've Never Been In?

by Donald Vining
The Crossing Press. \$6.95 (paper)
by Marv. Shaw

Realistic but upbeat, blunt but graceful, serious but witty, Don Vining's new collection from the last decade for periodicals such as *The Advocate* and *In Touch* demonstrates the wisdom experience combined with insight and optimism can create.

Subtitled "Essays on Gay Life and Relationships," the anthology ranges from the perennially important Relationships through Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow. It becomes obvious almost at once that the intense living, feeling, and thinking that Vining has accumulated and practiced in his three-score-plus years have made him a thorough, unabashed, and perceptive gay commentator. His own statements illustrate best.

'Nor did gays skulk about in pre-Stonewall days.'

—Donald Vining

On "Sex Specialization": "What they [the specialists] need to learn is that love itself is a turn-on that can make one blind even to such immutables in

another person as a stature well under one's ideal requirements or a weight well over it, to skin not of one's first choice in color, and genitals suitable only to a human being rather than to a horse."

On "Handling Rejection": "The fact that so many gays go in for overkill in rejecting is what makes many others unduly timid, unreasonably sensitive to what we should all view as nothing but a minor setback in our sexual venturing."

In the title essay, partly a recall of the post-World War II era: "Nor did gays skulk about in pre-Stonewall days. They camped, hoisted, hollered and constantly flung defiance at the straight world."

In "Straight Talk": "Separatists do us all a disservice. They abet the Jerry Falwells of the world by doing nothing to counteract the poisonous propaganda that gays and lesbians are some sort of monster."

In the closing essay, "Where Do We Go from Here?" Vining writes: "We've come an amazing distance in the fifty-odd years of my gay awareness, and I hope we travel at least an equal distance, at an accelerated speed, in what remains of this century." Right on, man! And you stick around too, Don. We need your stuff. ●

Gonza Magillas

Out In The World, Selected Letters of Jane Bowles

edited by Millicent Dillon
Black Sparrow Press, 1985
by John D. Dolan

Jane Bowles, who was born in 1917 and died in 1973, was not a prolific writer. *Two Serious Ladies*, a novel, was published in 1943. Her one play, of which there are three versions, was first produced in 1953, and her six short stories can be found in her collected works, published in 1965. Now we have her selected letters, edited by the same woman who wrote *A Little Original Sin* (1981).

Jane Bowles lived an extraordinarily unconventional life. She married Paul Bowles, the writer-composer, in 1938, and on his account moved to Morocco, where she lived for years. Their relationship was a central fact in her life, and yet they often went their own ways, in and out of bed. As Dillon points out in her succinct and valuable introduction, after Jane's affair with Helvetia Perkins, whom she met while traveling with Paul in Mexico in 1940, Jane's "certainty in her powers of wit and charm" underwent a profound change.

Then there is the matter of Jane's relentless artistic integrity. Again, as Dillon points out, all of her work was "completed by the time she was in her early 30s," meaning before her life in Tangier began, and, ironically, after her husband's career as a writer took off. She would come to love other women "romantically" (Jane's word), but her life with Cherifa in Tangier (an Arabian woman she met in 1948) was central to her life until the

late 1960s.

And then there are these letters—133 of them—which, as all great letters do, reveal, illuminate, entertain, and tell the story direct, as it were, from the horse's mouth. Letters are not conversation, and because Jane honored what the written word can do and because she intelligently understood her own complicated person. Her letters are "literature," meaning that while Jane Bowles writes about daily activities and about her considerable dilemmas, the letters create a character. And while it's easy enough to comprehend any one of her letters, it's impossible to summarize the person who comes "out in the world" in this selection.

For instance, her letters to Paul amount to a study of that unique relationship. That they loved each other—he's still living—there's no question. But they had lots of problems, and Jane, being a frank person, lets us in on them. Money was one. He made more, and generally speaking, Jane was dependent on that fact. But she was also strong-willed, and while considerate, she was no tag-along. Their conflicting desires, sexual and not, created incredibly complicated and changing situations. We see all of this in her many long letters to him, and at some points we see it in agonized detail in letters which Jane called "megillahs," and when it was a joke, "gonza magillas." Not especially witty in her letters to him (she's often self-justifying), she expresses anxie-

ty, interest, and love to a husband who could not stay put anywhere for very long.

Another large group of letters are to Libby Holman, the singer. Again, some of the letters are "megillahs" (Yiddish for overly extended), but in these letters, as in others to various persons, mostly women, Jane's wit and charm begin to indicate why, when she was loved, she was loved so passionately. Equally frank, Jane also reveals an abiding conflict of gratitude, guilt, and love bumping up against her fierce independence, and, as always, her lifelong struggle to express fully, clearly, and truly what she's experiencing.

In 1957, at age 40, Jane Bowles suffered a stroke. It happened immediately after an argument with her beloved Cherifa. From this point on, her letters are, if nothing else, a testament to her moral courage. She got somewhat better, travelled some, got gradually worse, and was finally unable to write the kind of letter she needed and wanted to. Her downhill trip may at times seem depressing, but she didn't give up, often displayed a mordant wit, until trailing off she became inarticulate. Her last letter in this book is tentatively dated 1970. She died in a Spanish clinic three years later.

Millicent Dion has done a terrific job of editing. Never intruding herself, she supplies, when needed, factual information between the letters and in brief footnotes. With true imagination, she also places short excerpts from Jane's work into the text, an editorial decision which enhances it, as well as providing a chronology of Jane Bowles' life. ■

How Can You Come Out If You've Never Been In?

By DONALD
VINING



Master

(Continued from page 55)

Preston is queried as to his right to turn private acts into something for public consumption. He answers: "I am the ringmaster of the circus. I direct the lights and I coordinate the acts. That is my skill, my first love, my contribution to a world full of blandness and dreary morality." This is rather obvious from reading *Entertainment*. In a book focused on himself, it is an unnecessary, self-trumpeting statement, and indicative of an attitude that becomes increasingly unpleasant throughout the book.

Preston spouts trite commentaries as if they were teachings from the mount. "That we live in a democratic society is one of the great lies of America," Preston tells the reader as if it were a new and shattering truth. "Adrienne says it is my duty to change the course of Western civilization," Preston smiles. He responds, "I don't think so," but you know he has at least considered the possibility. And in a generalization that is worthy of a Falwell or a LaRouche, Preston spits: "Collections of punks stood on street

corners, probably to victimize the other poor people. They would rob the old ladies on Social Security, beat the women on welfare, rape the young men living on disability. They disgusted me." Preston is just as right as the California legislator who in 1986 voted against higher AIDS funding by saying AIDS is just a gay disease.

But even worse is Preston's abusive fantasy that he could correct and redirect the lives of "violent and anarchistic young males" by good food, hard studies, physical labor, and the "well applied strap." Does Preston seriously believe that physical punishment is the answer to the world's ills? Preston seems to lose track of the fact that punishment works in an S/M situation only because of consent; punishment is not the key, consent is. Preston is frighteningly serious when he says, "The failing of the whole social services system could be overcome by a confederation of sadists."

Towards the end of the book, Preston cleanly describes the reason for arranging his party: "Everything around us is so defiled by corruption in one way or

another. We're brought down to some low common denominator by it all, our sex is and so is our writing. Our finest moments, Madame, are in our minds and in our words. It's so seldom that we're able to translate them into our lives, no matter how much we try."

But after 150 pages of buildup to his party, Preston throws the party off with seven anti-climactic pages. It is a cock tease. Preston is attempting to dominate everyone who reads his book. It is ultimately an unsatisfactory conclusion despite Preston's approach that as a master he alone decides what is of interest. In the beginning of the book, Preston writes: "It [the party] was set up only for the four of us. Implicit was the statement that only the four of us would properly enjoy the entertainment that was planned." Preston at least sticks to his word.

With more master's journals to come, I look forward to Preston's further sexual exploits. But more of the same attitude from his "higher plane" will be no entertainment. ●

M.I. Chester

SUMMER BOOKS

Rémy Martin
NAPOLEON
COGNAC
salutes
GAY PRIDE WEEK

REMY MARTIN
FINE CHAMPAGNE COGNAC
NAPOLEON

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Forward Together



No Turning Back

(All Photos by Rink/Graphics: N. Gotthart and D. Gregory)

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FORWARD TOGETHER NO TURNING BACK!

STAGE



A portion of the Mothertongue Readers' Theater collective

(Photo: G. Day)

'We Are the Drama'

Mothertongue Readers' Theater Celebrates Ten Years of Art, Creativity, and Survival

by Chiori Santiago

Ten years ago a group called the Women's Speakers Network decided they wanted a more dramatic approach in delivering a feminist message at a national conference in San Francisco, and Mothertongue Readers' Theater was born.

While the Speakers Network doesn't exist any longer, some of the women who performed that day in 1976 are still with Mothertongue. The group has weathered financial hassles, internal arguments, and inspired formation of sister groups in Sonoma County and Santa Cruz. To celebrate its longevity, Mothertongue is holding a series of performances throughout the year on both sides of the Bay.

In July, the feminist readers' theater will present *Endangered Species* Saturday the 12th at the Women's Building in San Francisco, and again on Sunday the 13th at La Pena Cultural Center in Berkeley. As are all its scripts, *Endangered Species* is written by women in the collective and speaks of personal experience—in this case, reaction to environmental issues, nuclear war, and the survival of women as a threatened member of the ecosystem.

Unlike other readers' theater groups, which deliver strictly from the printed page, Mothertongue does "act out a lot of scripts" according to member Ida DSW Red. But unlike traditional theater, "the idea is to evoke the emotion of the writing rather than showing it," she said. Over the past decade more than a hundred women have written and performed the tapestries of their lives in the form of poems, stories, dialogue, and skits staged by Mothertongue.

"It's a way for those who are not experienced in theater to write and perform," Red explained. The collective is open to any woman who is a "self-defined feminist."

"All you have to do to be a member is to work your ass off," she added.

For this series, Mothertongue revives some of its old favorites from days gone by. "Each performance," said Red, "is like a birthday party. Even though

some scripts were written years ago, they're relevant today. Sometimes we start feeling we're always doing the same old things, but there's always someone in the audience who needs to know what I said last year—we're always telling old truths to new groups."

'The theater is based on the assumption that we all have something to say.'

For old-time fans, Mothertongue will present retrospectives of early work during November and December. In August the collective will do *Women and Peace*; September will feature *Women's Work*, and in October it'll be *Spiritual Women*—both new works.

Scripts grow out of members' submissions and are reviewed by the group in a "nurturing" atmosphere, according to Liz Dunn, who has been a member for two years. "In the process, we hone and polish each other's work," added Red. None of the staged work uses a director; instead, one woman acts as a "third eye" to share ideas regarding interpretation and mood, and the group makes collective decisions based on those suggestions.

"The performances vary enormously depending on the women involved," Red explained.

Mothertongue exists without grant funding, relying on ticket sales for the bulk of its revenue to pay rent for performance space, honoraria for the readers, and for child care and a sign language interpreter. Its survival has been "an organic process," Dunn said.

"We've survived by being flexible," said Red. "There has always been a free flow of people who needed to do what we're doing, and we have a faithful audience. Sometimes things slow down, and the organization has gone underground at times during the past ten years until interest is revived again."

"The theater is based on the assumption that we all have something to say," said Dunn. "Our lives are our art. We are the drama. The stories of our lives are creative."

"And," she adds, "we just have a good time."

Mothertongue readers' Theater performs on the second Saturday of each month at 8 p.m. at the Women's Building, 3543 18th St. in San Francisco; and the second Sunday of each month at La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave., in Berkeley. Tickets are \$8-5, sliding scale donation at the door. All performances are wheelchair accessible, with childcare and interpretation for the hearing impaired with 48-hour notice. Call 923-9958 or TTY 776-DEAF for information.

Not So Far Apart

by Bob Woolhouse

If you are gay and they are straight, is it possible to be funny at high noon on Tuesday? On a cold, foggy day atop Mt. Parnassus? When in the hospital with an audience of medical personnel?

Is it possible for a gay comic to capture a straight audience? Without editing and re-slanting the material? When squeezed in between several other comics doing jokes about heterosexual relationships?

Yes is the answer to all of the above. At least if the comics are Danny Williams, Tom Ammiano, and Marga Gomez. Comedy as they present it seems momentarily to break down the barriers between straight and gay, allowing both sides to laugh with, rather than at, each other.

Danny recently did a successful show, *Noontime Cabaret*, at the University of California, San Francisco Medical Center for a straight audience of medical personnel. He captured not only their attention but also their sympathy, and then proceeded to launch into his uncensored gay comedy routines. The audience responded with the same enthusiasm as the women at the Baybrick Inn and the men of the S.F. Eagle.

Tom and Marga, along with several determinedly heterosexual standup comics, each did ten-minute comedy slots for a KPFA benefit at The Other Cafe here in the city. The crowd of daters, mostly of the him and her variety, enjoyed Ammiano and Gomez as much or more than the straight comics on the program, despite the differences in material and point of view.

There are differences in audiences, of course, but not so much along the lines of sexual orientation. The setting can make a big difference. A sit-down cabaret audience may be more at-

tentive than a mobile bar crowd. A paying audience may be more appreciative than a freebee crowd that didn't expect a show in the first place. And a Fresno audience is not a Bay Area one.

Certain rules apply for dealing with the gay/straight comedy situation. Ease into the gay material without hitting them over the head with it. Avoid the hardcore porno jokes about your anal compulsive roommate. Forget the comedy of aggressiveness, which is only a mask for personal animosity.

Another factor is for the comic to come across as a likeable person who happens to be doing gay humor. Once this quality is established, a rapport is possible and the humanizing process begins. Thereafter, the audience is ready to appreciate the gay slant to the absurdities of relationships and the frustrations of everyday living.

Certainly there are risks for the gay person performing in the straight arena. Williams tells of a show he did at "a very large university on Berkeley" where part of his audience was the animal house contingent from fraternity row. Tension was in the air and soon the anti-gay taunts began.

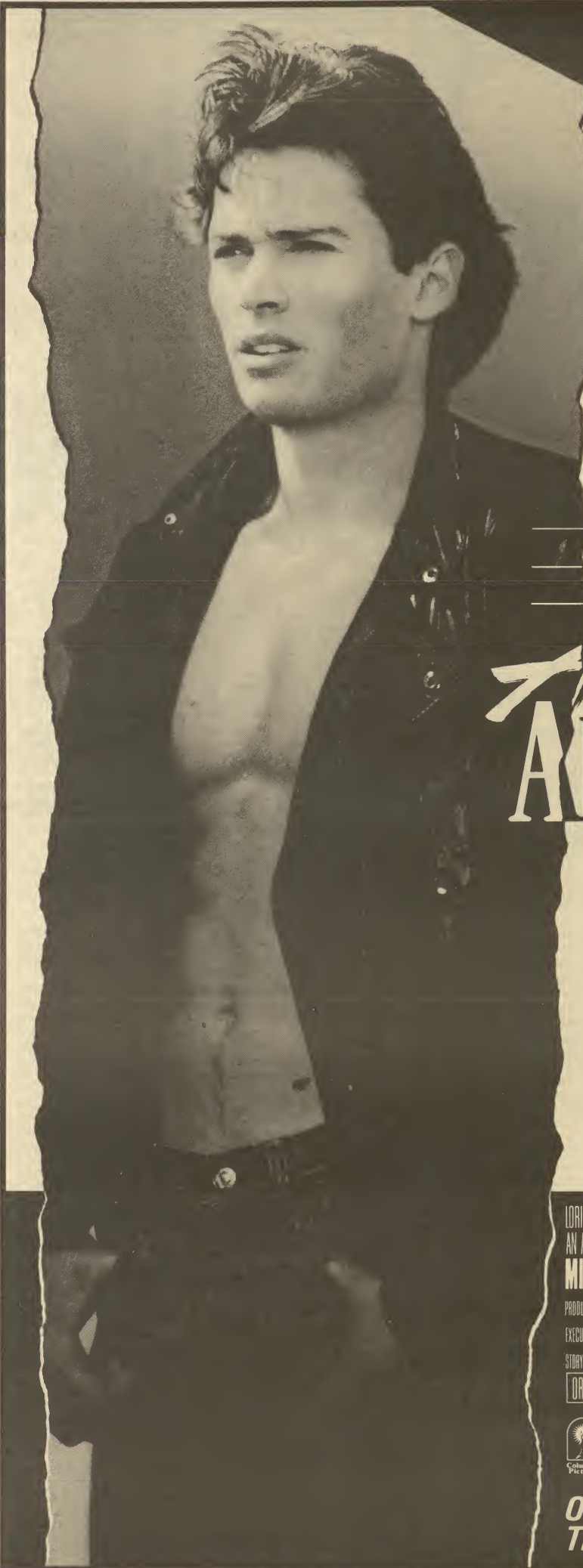
However, he was able to control the situation by gently using the approach that it's hip, it's cool to accept gays; and it's square, it's redneck to try to bait them. Soon the majority of the audience was on his side and the outnumbered hecklers sat down and shut up.

Comedy, whether gay or straight, seems to be about equal parts material, delivery, and an engaging personality. For comics like Ammiano, Gomez, and Williams, who excel in these categories, facing a straight audience with gay humor presents relatively few problems.



Tom Ammiano

(Photo: Rink)



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**OPENS JUNE 27TH AT
THEATRES EVERYWHERE.**

In The Swampland

On the outskirts of Bonn, Germany, there is a ridge called the Venusberg which in reality is a monotonous, shabby, swampy area. For myself and many others, gay life has become a similar Venusberg, a swampland of aborted sensuousness, constrained desire, confused direction, and immobiliz-

ing fear. But it needn't be so. Larry Kramer's play *The Normal Heart*, which helps us formalize our unfocused feelings about AIDS, and the recent Gay Producer's Association of America Awards Show, which furthered the legitimacy of porn entertainment, are only two means we have of getting back on solid land.

Seeing *The Normal Heart* was one of the most unpleasant experiences, but one I wouldn't do without. The production now playing at the Berkeley Repertory Theatre (through July 6; 845-7700) is loud, aggressive, and extreme. It's also brilliantly acted and directed, cast with an eye for physical beauty, and encyclopedic in its issues and emotions.

The play's autobiographical tale about Kramer is of less import in San Francisco, where he is not a well-known local character, than in New York, where it caused controversy, overshadowing the play with the entanglements of personality. The play serves here not as a judging of Larry Kramer, but as a catharsis and release for our mourning and as a forum for debate. It is hard for us to articulate our sexual and political feelings about AIDS, so we can thank Kramer for setting them out in such a human and theatrical context.

Hovering like an umbrella over all the issues of the play is Kramer's alternately heartbreaking and inspiring picture of what plagues do to people, collectively and individually. Some fight, for reasons coming as much from fear of weakness as from strength, and others give in. We are sure to find ourselves in many parts of *The Normal Heart*, and we can use these pictures to resist the fragmentation and confusion of a plague.

A difficult issue explored by Kramer is that of silence. We could have expected the government to be of little assistance, but why do many gay people themselves resist confronting and publicizing the issue? Loss of job and insurance, fear of reprisal and hysteria—and just plain fear. The reach of the closet is great, even to those publicly out, and in the differing reactions of the characters in *The Normal Heart* we can see the unusual and varying degrees to which our lives are circumscribed by being official outsiders.

An important stand of Kramer's play is his depiction of how we hide from the things which hurt us. The Kramer character, for instance, is so fearful of the commitments of love that he hides behind a stand-offish personality, incessant political causes, and bath house orgies which allow the greatest physical intimacy with the least amount of personal intimacy. The play also demonstrates various ways in which fear keeps us from facing AIDS as squarely as we should. Indeed, gay audiences seem to be hiding from *The Normal Heart* itself; attendance is lower than expected. This may result as much from the theater's "It's not a gay play" advertising as from the AIDS Issues Overdose we're suffering; in either case, get over it.

It certainly is discomforting to hear Kramer's repeated attacks on the sexual liberation of the '70s, even if his harangues help clarify our feelings—and not on his side of the fence, either. Kramer's notorious summing-up novel of the '70s, *Faggots*, was not so much anti-sex as anti-promiscuous sex, with its thesis that we were "using our bodies as barter instead of our brains as heart." Kramer expands on that in *The Normal Heart*, claiming promiscuity caused the atrophy of our emotions. "Men do not just na-



The Scott O'Hara Revue

(Photo: S. O'Hara)

turally not love," he says. "They learn not to."

Illuminating as they are, Kramer's debates on the affects of promiscuity swamp *The Normal Heart's* discussion of AIDS. By the play's own admission, this is neither an emotional nor civil rights issue, but a health issue. Even though the play's discussion of our emotional lives and civil rights are passionately intense and well-wrought, the subject is not the qualification of our past sexual habits, but our ongoing responsibility and culpability in halting those practices when they were found to purvey a deadly disease. Many men still pretend nothing is going on—witness the classified ads in this paper or the suck-and-fuck which occurred upstairs during Febe's closing party. Those who wish to fool themselves can be well and truly fooled (Populus vult decipi, ergo decipiatur), but can they keep themselves alive? It's no wonder Kramer rages.

But if it serves to indict, Kramer's play also strives to inspire. *The Normal Heart* asks us not only to take action on the AIDS crisis and our own well-being, but on our identity and pride. And that is an issue directly entwined with our sex lives. As long as we are defined only by our cocks, says Kramer, we will not take our rightful place among cultures. If we are more than our cocks—which are literally killing us—now is the time to prove it, to be leaders in creating a new definition of what it means to be gay.

Like Lorraine Hansberry's *Les Blancs*, *The Normal Heart* is the call for a people to be warriors, not to bury head and cock in a hole, but to take a stand. Despite, and perhaps on account of, its hate and anger, *The Normal Heart* is a loving and inspiring play.

* * *

Although porno has paid only the most marginal heed to AIDS, the creation two years ago of the Gay Producers Association of America, a group for porn producers, could not have been more timely. With its intention of providing support and guidance for the industry as well as halting video piracy and providing support in legal situations, the GPAA is poised for what co-founder and officer

Daniel Holt calls "serious trouble." The GPAA is sure porn producers and outlets will be attacked as soon as bathhouses no longer exist.

The GPAA had only six charter members. "We do it because we enjoy it and see a need for it," Holt told me. While Matt Sterling recently joined the group, some industry heavies remain aloof. Al Parker won't consider it, Falcon Studios, though supportive, hasn't joined, and Bill Higgin's Catalina Studios is merely thinking about it, according to Holt. He says that is because the gay porn business has always been splintered; it's not so highly competitive as straight porn. "It's so personal," said Holt, "that no one wants to help each other. They feel indestructible, both legally and healthwise."

The GPAA initiated an annual awards show last year as its first step in raising awareness and industry standards. This year's show took place two weeks ago at the Century Theatre in Los Angeles and presented a rough full of awards in between lots of naked boys dancing. Beefy young blond Troy was named Newcomer of the Year for his muscular solo in *Sgt. Swan's Private Files*, and Jon King and Lee Ryder won Best Erotic Scene for their nasty work in *Screen Play*. For his first film, Tony DeStefano was acclaimed Best Sexual Performer (well, ok) and Best Actor (from the minimalist school) in *Inch By Inch*, the Matt Sterling opus which also won Best Film of the Year—even though wags have told me it's too cosmetic and its boys too pretty. Well, smite me with "too pretty," please.

Richard Locke was presented with a well-deserved Humanitarian Award, which he accepted before an audience of producers who will not employ him because he'll only film safe sex.

So the GPAA hasn't quite assumed its full leadership potential. They did offer the strangest thing I've ever seen on an awards show program, however, a tacit acknowledgement of the presence of AIDS in their midst, with a "Memorial" list of 20 industry names claimed by AIDS. One exception—Sam Paskow, aka Big Max, who died of a heart attack induced by steroid overdose. Others on the list include Mike

(Continued on page 69)

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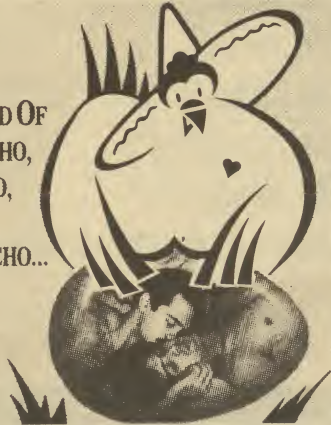
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STAGE

Larger Issues

by Stephen Drewes

I am willing to concede that Larry Kramer, author of *The Normal Heart*, may be everything his detractors say he is. He may indeed be shrill, self-interested, over aggressive, and fundamentally homophobic. But he has written one hell of a piece of theater, and I am filled with admiration.

Before we proceed, I must admit in all honesty that I'm not the least biased person to be commenting on this production. I read Kramer's novel, *Faggots*, in 1980, and loathed every page of it. I have since been informed that Kramer intended it to be satirical, but from my perch at the time, which, in point of dull fact, was a miniscule academic community on the Eastern Shore of Maryland where I was incarcerated in a professorship, it was simply repellent. Are these the sorts of persons, I thought to myself, that I'm going to encounter when I get back to the city? Do I have to spend even a moment of my rapidly disappearing youth with people whose principle concern in life seems to be how to get cum off of flocked wallpaper? No, thank you very much, I'd rather cram myself back in the closet and spend the remainder of my days with rusty coat hangers and moth balls!

Just 24 hours before I was scheduled to see *The Normal Heart* I learned that one of my favorite pals, a fellow composed entirely of good humor, sweetness, and good sense, has Pneumocystis Pneumonia. This is the closest AIDS has come to my private life, and it is very close. Through a fog of grief and rage, I wondered if it was going to be possible for me to sit through a play about AIDS, and particularly one written by a man whose novel I felt set the image of gay men back at least a couple of decades. With the help of my companion of the evening, who promised to remove me the moment I began to hyperventilate or chew up librium like salted peanuts, I persevered. I'm very glad I did.

The Normal Heart is by no means a perfect play. Many of its characters fail to develop, and many of its plot turns are contrived. As has often been noted, it's preachy, and Kramer seems to be suggesting that the main character, an undisguised self portrait, was single-handedly responsible for the dissemination of responsible information on the nature of the AIDS virus to the entire city of New York. This strains credulity past the breaking point. Moreover, he asks us to become concerned about relatively minor issues, and at inappropriate moments. But all these problems become inconsiderable in the light of what Kramer has attempted and what he has achieved in this play.

Kramer is the first playwright in my experience since Robert Patrick who has attempted to portray a group of homosexual men who are reasonably well adjusted. The guys in *The Normal Heart* are troubled but not controlled by their weaknesses, reasonably sensitive to one another's needs, not consumed by more than the average portion of self hatred, and are, in short, living examined lives. They are imperfect and real, and it's about time we saw them on the stage. Furthermore, he has taken the

AIDS crisis and related it to an even larger idea: the fact that health is a political issue and that the U.S. is one of only two countries that does not guarantee its citizens adequate health care. The self-professed goal of Kramer's work is to urge the gay community to create an identity which is not necessarily based on sexuality, and to make us aware that we are, and should want to be, a part of a yet larger community. By thus expanding the concerns of *The Normal Heart*, he has succeeded in doing just that.

The Berkeley Rep's production of *The Normal Heart* is first rate. The acting is arresting throughout, which is particularly admirable in that just about every character has a tantrum. Now tantrums are very tempting to performers—they're lovely opportunities to blow off some steam and display a little emotional virtuosity. But they're terribly hard to control. After all, no one likes being yelled at. But director M. Burke Walker has modulated this production beautifully, and nothing gets out of hand. The design team, Michael Olich, Derek Duarte, James LeBrecht, and Victor Spiegel, hasn't made a wrong move, and



James Carpenter (l.) and Robert Picardo in the Berkeley Repertory Theatre production of *The Normal Heart* (Photo: K. Friedman)

the entire environment of the play perfectly mirrors the script's overall mood of anger and frustration.

I'm rarely moved to tears in the theater, but *The Normal Heart* did the trick. I bought a copy of the script, which probably won't remain in my library long because I intend to press it on

everyone I know—particularly on my many straight friends, one of whom recently confessed that she thinks you can catch AIDS from a public pool!

No matter what your political convictions may be, *The Normal Heart* deserves to be seen. You may not agree with Larry Kramer's convictions regarding

appropriate responses to the AIDS crisis, but it is our duty as responsible theatergoers to defend to the death his right to state them.

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FORWARD TOGETHER

NO TURNING BACK!

That European Touch

LaMusica, the New Place Under the Cafe San Marcos, Serves Melodies with Its Cuisine

by Stephen Drewes

San Francisco is full of people who love good food and good music, and I always feel I'm laying up for myself treasures in heaven when I'm able to point out where one or the other can be found. Imagine my delight, then, to discover that the old restaurant below the Cafe San Marcos on Market Street has changed hands and become LaMusica. I never had anything against the place, mind you. I'm sure it was a delightful spot; I never went there. (Do I here a murmur of surprise out there in Readerland? Hell, you'd be surprised at the things I've never done. Or maybe you wouldn't. Oh dear...)

The new owners, Pat and David Howell, are the creators of a hugely and justifiably successful chain of Italian take-out joints called Auntie Pasta. We had Auntie for dinner last Christmas and, let me tell you, it was Yum-O-Rama. Nothing much has changed about the physical plant. The decor is still vaguely Tyrolian; the tall gas street lamps are still in place; The Rex Whistler-esque mural still decorates the west wall and, in the center of the room, the fountain still splashes. (Huzzah! I've waited years to use that word!)

What the Howells have changed is the purpose of the place. They've hired a new chef, trained at LaVarenne in Paris, named Michael Ashcraft, hired Music Director Marcie Stapp, and instituted a series of Wednesday evening dinner concerts. If we are ever lucky enough to institute a constitutional monarchy in this country, the Howells will be promptly knighted.

The evening begins at 7:30, and for a reasonable \$30 it includes a menu which is thematically linked to the musical offering. LaMusica opened on April 30 with a concert called "Abso-Boomin'-Lutely-Spring," celebrating the music of that season. It was followed May 7 by "From One Extreme to the Other," featuring soprano Cynthia Vaughn and bass Gregory Stapp. May 21, I attended "Champagne and Schnitzel: Music from Vienna," which was a stroke of luck for me because I'm a hopeless sucker for things *Fin-de-siecle*. Give me a feather fan, a flight of stairs and a Viennese waltz and I'm happy forever.

My companion of the evening,

a distinguished connoisseur of both melodies and munchies, and I started with Emperor's Potato Soup with Parsnips and Mushrooms and Liptaver Cheese with Toast. We both felt they might have been more boldly seasoned, a little paprika would have done wonders. We moved on to Grilled German Sausages with Whole Grain Mustard and Grilled Strip Steak with Onion Caraway Compote. Both dishes were served with perfectly cooked and presented zucchini and red cabbage, and could not be faulted. The several different kinds of sausage, both mild and gamey, were particularly noteworthy.

Tenor Baker Peebles started

off the concert with Mozart's "Il mio Tesoro" from *Don Giovanni*. Were it possible for a performer to be bored with good reviews, Peebles would be overwhelmed with ennui on reading this. He's one of the best tenors in town, and I've liked everything I've seen him do. This evening was no exception. He was joined by an expressive and attractive soprano named Katya Roemer, who added greatly to the ambience by having the good taste to wear a sea emerald green ball gown with matching evening gloves to the shoulder. She also opened with Mozart: "Dove Sono" from *The Marriage of Figaro*. Peebles went on to do lovely things with Beethoven's "Adelaide" and

Brahms' "Wie bist du, meine Koniger." Roemer added two lilt-ing songs by Schubert and Wolf, and they got together for a number of songs and duets from *The Merry Widow* (never trust a man who doesn't like Franz Lehar), *Countess Maritza*, and *Die Fledermaus*, closing with the duet "Wien, du Stadt Meiner Traume."

By this time I was floating blissfully in the general direction of the ceiling. I decended for a spectacular glass of Cakebread Chardonnay and an Apfel Strudelfulle that gilded the lily.

When I can maneuver myself into an economic position in which I can give myself a weekly treat, LaMusica is where you will

find me. Coming up is "Very Verdi And Verismo" with soprano Joan Jacques and tenor Keith Purdy, and July 2 is "With a Song In My Heart: An American Sampler," featuring classic American songs from Cole Porter to Gian Carl Menotti.

If you happen to be in love with anyone at the moment, LaMusica is the spot for the two of you. Being dined and delighted there is an experience so completely European that upon emerging I was actually startled to find myself in the middle of Boy's Town on a busy Wednesday night. I had half expected to find myself on the Unter Den Linden, hail a passing fiacre, and take off at a brisk trot for the Schonbrunn. ●



LaMusica on Upper Market Street

(Photo: Rink)

Cabaret at a Glance

by Stephen Drewes

In a recent article in the New York Times, Mel Gussow referred to Michael Feinstein as "an extremely personable and knowledgeable archivist and entertainer." That's swell, Mel, as far as it goes, and from that conservative organ it probably amounts to a rave. But for my money, Feinstein's an awful lot more.

He's a performer of palpable charm who understands and embraces the virtue of simplicity. Although he never allows his own personality to dominate a lyric, you can't forget for a minute who's interpreting it. He's a first-rate pianist whose arrangements explore and illuminate his material, giving new life to such standards as "I'll Be Seeing You" and "Thanks for the Memory." Feinstein is equally comfortable with the lyrical and satirical—at his most jaunty he reminds me of early Tom Lehrer, and I doubt anyone has sung a love song with greater tenderness and sensitivity since Frank Sinatra was very young.

Feinstein's opening at the Plush Room May 13 was so glitterate it was nearly intimidating. Everyone was there, my dear, and well they should have been. It was a wonderful show—close to 20 songs, ranging from old friends to hitherto undiscovered gems.

Teresa Tudury may be the funniest lady in town; she is obviously one of the most widely talent-



Legends—Susan Parks (l.) and Val Diamond (r.) frame Mary Martin and Carol Channing when Beach Blanket Babylon celebrated its 4,000th performance (Photo: R. Morris)

ed. A denizen of North Beach ("The Pope is my landlord"), Tudury is a singer of note, a composer and lyricist, a guitarist, and an hilarious stand-up comedian.

To judge from the large and

very mixed crowd at Buckley's May 9, she appeals to just about everyone, which is not surprising because there doesn't seem to be much she can't do within the parameters of her very distinct

personality. She has a large, dark voice which, although she is never derivative, makes me think of what might have happened if Buffy St. Marie had taken lessons from Nina Simone. And she can scat, too. I favor her own stuff: "Eagle," "I'm Just a Bellhop in the Hotel of Your Love," and "The Last One Alive" are as amazing as they are on target. She does lovely things with old faves like "Melancholy Baby," and if she did none of the above she would still win my everlasting gratitude for reviving the wonderful theater songs of Beatrice Lillie. I've waited years to hear someone do "There Are Fairies at the Bottom of Our Garden." How appropriate that it should be Tudury, who seems to be following in Miss Lillie's footsteps and building a reputation as a mistress of merry madness.

A sage esthete once commented that all great works of art possess a certain quality of inevitability. "But of course!" the viewer remarks on first exposure, "that's the way it's supposed to be done." If you've never had this lovely experience, rush right down to Stanley Eichelbaum's new restaurant, the Cafe Majestic, where Weslia Whitfield and her partners Mike Greensill and Paul Breslin are performing on Tuesday nights. Whitfield and the Majestic—both warm, stylish, elegant, and unpretentious—are made for one another. They're the closest thing to Bob-bly Short at the Cafe Carlisle or Barbara Cook at Reno Sweeney's San Francisco has to offer, and

simply, not to be missed.

Beach Blanket Babylon celebrated its 4,000th performance May 18, making it the longest-running musical revue in theater history, surpassing even *The Ziegfeld Follies*.

I'm glad to report that Steve Silver, after a slight, shall we say, slumpette, is happily back in full stride. *BBB Goes Around the World* has all the delightful daffiness of early editions and more. We are offered tap dancing sushi ("If You Knew Sushi..."), a chorus of mummies ("Mammy"), a line of meatballs ("Great Balls of Fire"), and garbage cans doing, of course, the CanCan.

Guests of Honor at the gala performance were Carol Channing and Mary Martin, who were charming and funny and confirmed my suspicion that Martin has the prettiest skin and Channing the largest face I've ever seen. Charlotte Maillard, wearing a Dianne Feinstein bow, presented Silver with a proclamation from the mayor, remarking that although Silver may have thought this was its 4,000th performance, Cyril Magnin has actually seen *BBB* 6,000 times. The honored guests were presented with gifts that appeared to be made out of the largest rhinestones ever minted, Peter Pan flew, Dolly Levi sang "Hello Carol," Val Diamond stopped the show as usual, and, luckily, the evening ended on a note just this side of euphoria. I say "luckily" only because otherwise none of us would have been able to navigate through the Broadway Tunnel! ●

The AIDS Show

Epstein/Adair Video Premieres Tonight

S. Warren

I've written so much about Theatre Rhinoceros' *AIDS Show*, I didn't think I had anything left to say. I also didn't think I had any tears left to cry at the piece, but the video, *The AIDS Show: Artists Involved with Death and Survival*, dredged more of both from me. The health crisis has brought out hidden resources in all of us.

That's one of the points Peter Adair (*Word Is Out*) and Robert Epstein (*The Times of Harvey Milk*) wanted to make when they decided to collaborate on a work about AIDS. They learned that Theatre Rhinoceros had beat them to it, and when they saw the show they realized they had found their subject.

The musical-comedy-dramatic revues *The AIDS Show* and its revised, updated successor *Unfinished Business: The New AIDS Show* gave a kaleidoscopic view of societal responses, primarily but not exclusively within the gay community, to the first five years of living and dying with AIDS. Most of the video is made up of excerpts in edited form. Two of my favorite monologues, *Spice Queen* and *Mama's Boy*, eulogies by a friend (Doug Holsclaw) and a mother (Deena Davis) respectively, who have lost people to AIDS, have received minor, almost imperceptible cuts. More damage is done to other sketches:

airings. Write "The A.I.D.S. Show," P.O. Box 77043, San Francisco, CA 94107 for information. Call Theatre Rhinoceros about additional live performances this week and in August.

Whatever your feelings about KQED-TV, it should be pointed out that the station committed \$40,000 in post-production services to this project a year ago, enabling it to be made. The other \$95,000 came from grants and donations.

Besides broadcasting the show tonight and next Monday, KQED is offering it to PBS. The station has already said that if the network rejects it they will transmit it to affiliated stations themselves via satellite.

That brings up the question of whether the rest of the country is ready to handle gay reality as vividly presented in *The AIDS Show*. The probable answer is: No, but they'd better get ready.



A scene from *Inevitable Love*

Some of the language has been softened for the video, but the "F word" comes through loud and clear a few times. Epstein says the cast was given the option of changing their lines, with the understanding that they'd be more likely to get on television with more moderate language. "I think they changed them when they remembered to," he speculates.

I can't emphasize too strongly how proud I am of everyone involved, from the late Allen Estes who conceived the show before he was diagnosed with AIDS, through Epstein, Adair, and company who have captured its essence on video.

Watch the show tonight, on TV or in the studio. Tape it and watch it again. Show it to everyone you love. Tell out of town friends to

lobby their local PBS stations to broadcast it. Until we can wipe out AIDS itself we have to pursue the battle against the fear of AIDS. *The AIDS Show: Artists Involved with Death and Survival* is one of the most potent weapons we have in that struggle.

KQED-TV, 6/26, 9:30 p.m. and 6/30, 11 p.m.

'Watch the show tonight, on TV or in the studio. Tape it and watch it again. Show it to everyone you love.'

To Tell the Truth loses its punch line, which wasn't too punchy anyway, and Ellen Brook Davis' *The Nurse* seems more homophobic out of context.

There are interviews with the directors of the stage shows, Leland Moss and Holsclaw, in which they tell of their own experiences with people with AIDS. Other of the shows' actors and writers also have stories to tell, and co-director Adair gets personal in his narration. I confess to a moment of turnoff at first, until I reminded myself that AIDS is about people. The most dangerous thing we can do is allow it to be depersonalized, to divorce our emotions from our reactions to governmental bureaucracy and indifference, the insistence of some gay men on continuing to play Russian roulette with unsafe sex and health practices, and other concerns.

The AIDS Shows have been invaluable to all who have seen them, helping us cope with the AIDS crisis by maintaining a sense of humor as well as compassion for those who may be coping a bit differently from us.

During the making of the video the entire show was taped. It will be available for rental, as will this documentary after its initial

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Visuals: Greg Fleming

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FORWARD TOGETHER

NO TURNING BACK!

Gays Face Closet Lives in Israel

by Paul Wotman

Finding I was to be the only gay person traveling to Israel with Sup. Jack Molinari and Sup. Willie Kennedy, I immediately checked my Spartacus Guide to see where I might have some fun. The Spartacus Guide stated that "an atmosphere of persecution" now exists for gays in Israel and "strongly" suggested that "gays stay away from Israel and spend their holidays in more enjoyable venues." Sounded like a real good time.

Checking further in the guide, the gay spots listed for Jerusalem were a Turkish baths, a park, and "facilities." The listing for Tel Aviv was not much better with a park, a beach, and one bar mentioned as meeting places.

I was able to obtain the name of the head of the only gay group in Israel, the Society for the Protection of Personal Rights. Another friend gave me the name of a friend in Tel Aviv. Before we left, our delegation gathered at a party hosted by the consul general of Israel in San Francisco. My invitation arrived addressed to Mr. and Mrs. Paul Wotman. I thought this could be a long trip. I took my boyfriend to the party.

Before leaving I also talked with our travel agent who told me the Israeli government wanted to know a little bit about each of the members of our tour. I wondered if the Israeli government would let me into the country if they knew I was gay. I also wondered if they would require a blood test to see if I was HTLV-3 positive.

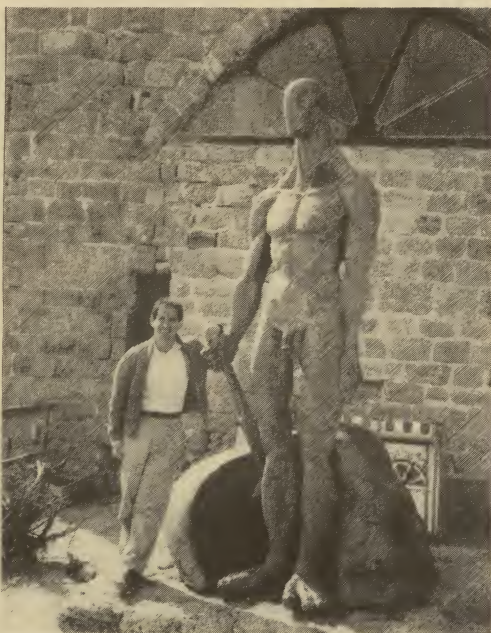
Forging ahead, I told the travel agent I was active in BALIF, the lesbian and gay attorneys association, the Alliance, the lesbian and gay political action committee, various gay democratic clubs, and GGBA, the lesbian and gay business association. There was no problem obtaining a visa and once in Israel, I found that my name on the various lists of our delegation given to government officials was marked merely "attorney."

The Israeli government had arranged for us to travel throughout Israel with a member of the foreign ministry. The 19 of us spent ten days together in an air-conditioned Mercedes bus touring the country. We came to know each other well.

Upon arriving in San Francisco's sister city, Haifa, we toured the extravagant world headquarters of the Baha'i religion. I asked a Baha'i guide what was the Baha'i attitude toward gay people. He told me he thought I would have the need to ask that question. Looking at him, I thought he had the need to answer it.

In a meeting with hospital administrators, I asked about AIDS cases in Israel. The administrator reported there were 23 AIDS cases in Israel and that research was being done at the Weizmann Institute of Science located just south of Tel Aviv. Weizmann is doing important AIDS research and there is an American Committee for the Weizmann Institute located in San Francisco which helps to fund the Israeli research.

We also met with the publisher



Paul Wotman at Caesarea, a centuries-old Roman town by the sea, here with a large Roman warrior

of the largest English language newspaper, the *Jerusalem Post*. I asked him whether his paper featured stories on gay people in Israel and the status of the society's attitude towards gays. He appeared very uncomfortable about having been asked this question. He told us the subject was not an issue in Israel although he personally had once known a homosexual. So much for media coverage of gays and lesbians in Israel.

Subsequently, we also met with a member of the Knesset, Israel's parliament. When I asked about the legal status of gay and lesbian people in Israel, he said he was not sure and asked his female aide. She knew the answer immediately—homosexual sex in Israel is illegal.

A minor party has introduced a bill to decriminalize gay sex. All Israelis 18 to 21 have to serve in the military and apparently gays are no exception. The head of the National Health Services said it was acceptable for gays to serve in the army. However, any high ranking officers are discharged and other gay personnel cannot



Some of the more interesting Israeli sites: four or five soldiers lounging

are not organized enough to be considered. Although they serve in the military as all others do, according to several gay men I talked to, they are not eligible for promotion or career military service.

Lesbians and gay men obviously do exist in Israel. I had a drink with one of our hotel employees, talked with a coffee salesman along the major Tel Aviv shopping boulevard, caught the eye and conversed with a young Israeli soldier, and visited Israel's only gay bar.

ness who now lived in Paris and New York.

The hotel employee told me that although he was gay, he was thinking of marrying a woman because it would be easier. He thought living with another man even as a roommate, after his mid-twenties was too suspicious, would hurt his career, and was not done as far as he knew.

The Israel I saw was an historical and religious place. From Masada where 900 Jews commit-

'The attitude of the newspaper editor and the Knesset member seemed typical of the prevailing unthinking, unknowledgeable, unconcerned attitude I found towards gays in Israel.'

The first night I went however, was "ladies night," and though I indicated I did not mind the company of fifty lesbians, I was not admitted. When I returned the next evening at about 10:30, I was virtually the only one there. By midnight the bar was slowly filling up, though of the three people I talked with, two were from the United States and one was an Israeli in the fashion busi-

ness suicide rather than submit to Roman rule some 2,000 years ago, to the Via Dolorosa where Christ carried his cross, to the Moslem church where Mohammed ascended to Heaven, history and religion prevail. Of course the extremists in any of these religions condemn gay people which must in some manner set the tone for the quiet, closeted gay lives I saw there.



Paul Wotman and Sup. John Molinari at the Masada ruins. Molinari's T-shirt says 'San Francisco' in Hebrew

Off And On The Air!

Gay Videos Complement Film Festival

by Steve Warren

The video portion of the San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival has always been something of a step-sibling, struggling for attention against the more glorious feature films. This will probably remain true until the Video Festival becomes a separate entity with dates of its own.

Being cheaper and more accessible than film, video allows both the talented and the untalented to complete their projects with less risk. At least two examples of the work of the talented will be on display in this year's Festival.

The AIDS Show: Artists Involved with Death and Survival (see accompanying review) will be shown at a benefit party tonight at 5:30 and 8:30 at the KQED-TV studios. Wine, a light buffet, and music by Tropical Sounds will be included for a \$10 donation, or you can stay home and watch the program on Channel 9 at 9:30 and send the money directly to your favorite AIDS group.

Coming of Age, Marc Huestis' tribute to San Francisco actor-director Chuck Solomon, will be "sneak previewed" in semi-final form tomorrow night at 7. Chuck, who has AIDS, is an inspiration as he tells about his first 40 years and celebrates his birthday at a unifying, healing party.

The rest of the videos are unpreviewed. Most are either AIDS-related or safe-sex erotica. In the latter category is Henry Mach's feature *Inevitable Love* with Casey Donovan and Jon King,

which shows tomorrow night at 9.

All of Saturday's shows are free. Festival Director Michael Lumpkin highlights *Hero of My Own Life*, a portrait of New York stage (*The Faggot*) and cabaret performer David Summers, who has AIDS; *The Awakening of*

Nancy Kaye, made by lesbian Ann Hershey, which deals with death and dying; and *Midwestern Skidmarks*, a comic piece which Lumpkin says makes especially creative use of the video medium.

Except for tonight's KQED show, the videos will all be presented in a large new screening room at Video Free America, 442 Shotwell near 18th. Call 431-9227 for ticket and schedule information about the videos as well as the films of the Festival's closing weekend.

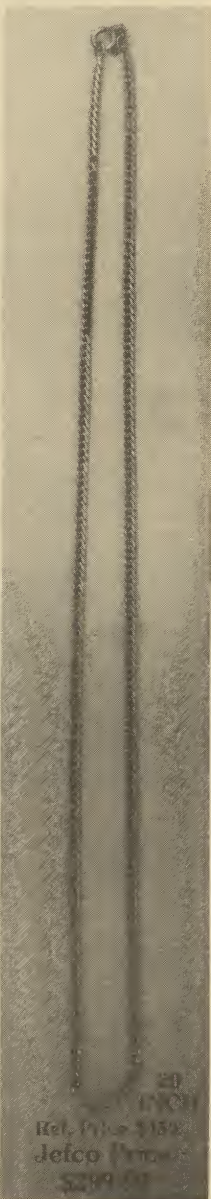
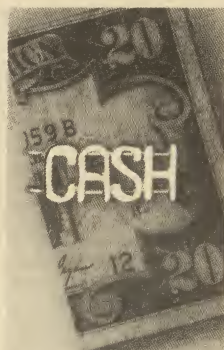


Robert Epstein (l.) and Peter Adair

(Photo: S. Warren)

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Karr

(Continued from page 64)

Davis, Mandingo, Beau Matthews, Colt's Erroll, Val Martin, Joseph Yale, David Connors, and several theater owners and porn producers.

I don't list these names as a bummer, but as a call to those who live in Venusberg. Bonn's swamp was named erroneously; Venn, meaning swamp, was misspelled, and the popular nickname stuck. As the Venusberg carries its name in error, many men perpetuate in error the popular behavior of the past. This has caused a fragmentation of our lives, which can be corrected only by our own insistence.

"The integration is in the action," wrote South African poet Roy Campbell, so I recommend, beside *The Normal Heart*, the action of the following groups and individuals for aid in the upcoming week in turning the swampland to solid ground again.

- The Happy Hour, with performers Doris Fish, Miss X, Sandahl and others, at 181 Eddy this weekend. Queens to the rescue!

- A Post Parade JO Party with the SF Jacks, June 29, 4-8 p.m., \$6 donation, at 10 Rogers Street, off Folsom near Eighth.

- Armistead Maupin for his daily prose and James Broughton for his occasional verse, including the Gay Games Anthem.

"There's so much death around," says Larry Kramer in his play. Let's continue to pull life out of every source we can. Best wishes for gay pride all year. •

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Where Has the Political Theater Gone?

by Stephen Drewes

MalvinaSong is an intimate and cheerful little show about an extraordinary woman, Berkeley activist/songwriter Malvina Reynolds. Currently in production at the versatile Studio Eremos under the Artaud on Alabama Street, *MalvinaSong* opens with a documentary film on Reynolds called "Love It Like A Fool." Made during the last year of Reynolds' life by filmmaker Susan Wengraf, "Love" gives us glimpses of Reynolds in concert, kitchen, and conversation.

Like any '60s survivor, I've known her music for years. We were raised, after all, on "Little Boxes on the Hillside, little boxes made of ticky-tacky..." But what I hadn't realized about this lady, and what Wengraf's sensitive film makes very clear, is how compellingly attractive Malvina Reynolds was. She was not only

politically correct, but graceful, funny, spontaneous, modest, and deeply committed to establishing a professional career which not only started quite late in her life, but was more or less closed to women at that time.

I mean, Malvina was writing before Ronnie Gilbert was around, and that goes back to the days when folk music was sung by just plain folks. In the film, Reynolds talks a bit about dying. She hoped, she said, to go quickly, "in a puff of smoke," and that's exactly what she did. If you send it out, you get it back.

The second half consists of some 30 or so of Reynolds' songs sung by three very interesting ladies, Chris Cone, Nina Egert, and Robin Klickstein, who accompany themselves and each other on piano, guitar, and dulcimer. They do a fine job, and I don't doubt Malvina would be pleased.



Nina Egert (l.), Robin Klickstein, and Chris Cone in *MalvinaSong* (Photo: S. Kitayanagi)

Some of the numbers were old friends—I hadn't heard the "From Way Up Here" in more than 20 years, and Nina Egert's haunting rendition brought back the waning days of the Beats with poignancy. Robin Klickstein is a lot of woman with a lot of voice who does well with all her material, but particularly with Reynolds' best-known song, "Turn

Around." (Actually, my companion of the evening referred to Klickstein as "a poor man's Val Diamond," but I don't see what economics has to do with it.) Chris Cone has a lovely soprano and sings "Ring Like A Bell" with such clarity and purity the song emerges as a sort of anthem. I very nearly saluted.

The group has been directed

by Robert MacDougall, who has kept the stage movement varied and interesting. He has, however, permitted one directorial faux pas which may seem petty but always rankles my critical ass. He has allowed these gals to indulge in a near orgy of affection for one another. There is far too much meaningful smiling, patting of backs, and general gestures of delight in the dear nearness of one another. I've been in the theater all my adult life. Eve dear, this is Addison!

Despite this tiny flaw, *MalvinaSong* is a delightful evening of politics and music, and I am as deeply appreciative of it as I am of *Rap Master Ronnie*, and for the same reasons. We live in a decade when our government is a walking caricature, but where, oh where, is all the political theater? Is anybody there? Does anybody care? Well, Malvina did, and these folks do, and we're the richer for it.

Malvina Song
Studio Eremos
530-6134

CLIMATE
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626-9196
Thur.-Sun. at 8:00 pm

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Legendary Ladies

by David-Alex Nahmod

The Buriel Clay Memorial Theatre is a small, intimate theater in the Western Addition Cultural Center. Their current, rather modest production is one that has received virtually no publicity, yet it is a show that deserves to be seen.

A Tribute to the Finest is a one-woman show in every sense of the word. Bettie Blount conceived, researched, wrote, directed, and starred in this tribute, in which she pays homage, through song, dance, and dramatic monologues to her singing idols.

Pearl Bailey, Billie Holiday, Bessie Smith, Dinah Washington, Mahalia Jackson, and Josephine Baker. These are the legendary ladies who inspired Bettie Blount to pursue a career in performing, and may I be so bold as to say she is a singer on a par with those she chooses to honor.

Blount wisely does not attempt impressions of the ladies. Instead she enacts dramatic monologues in which she plays them, and concludes each sketch by singing their signature songs, but always with her own inimitable persona stamped on each scene.

'Blount wisely does not attempt impressions of the ladies.'

I felt the pain and anguish of the drug-ridden "Lady Day," Billie Holiday, and saw the sadness in her when she sang "God Bless the Child." The stage is then filled with joy when it is taken over by the sassy, brassy Pearl Bailey. And the theater shook from the power of Blount's voice when, swathed in white robes as Mahalia Jackson, she sang the

gospel classic "Soon I Will Be Done."

Unfortunately, Bettie Blount is not as accomplished a director as she is a performer, and the show suffers a bit from poor direction. During her many costume changes, the lights dim and an off-stage, pre-recorded voice tells us about the next lady she is to play. Some of these narrations go on for as long as ten minutes, and the stage remains bare during these periods, while the band plays on and on. The show is in need of a good director who would have known how to keep the stage alive during the lapses between scenes.

Bettie Blount is a superb and deeply emotional singer, and I've no doubt she will go far in her career, and she deserves the support of San Francisco theatergoers. All she needs is a little direction to help better mold her onstage personality.

A Tribute to the Finest
Buriel Clay Memorial Theatre
Through June 28; 921-7976

Concert for GGL

Rick Bohner, one of the Gay Games II swimming co-chairs, is also a classical pianist. He will perform in an evening of classics along with tenor Sean Martinfield and pianist Scott Foglesong to benefit Gay Games II. The program includes works by Chopin, Lehar, Liszt, Rachmanioff, Schubert, and Strauss. The donation at the door is \$10, and tickets are on sale at Headlines and the Gay Games office at 526 Castro St. The concert will be held at the First Unitarian Church at Franklin and Geary Streets. Call 566-6496 for more information.

1986 Community Awards

The Gay Community Awards nominees will be announced tonight, June 26, at the Eagle at an 8 p.m. beer bust, which costs \$6. The 1986 Gay Community Awards will be held July 13 in the Green Room of the War Memorial Building, along with the introduction of candidates for Grand Duke and Grand Duchess. The doors will open at 6 p.m.

Mixed Chorus Stays Active

The Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco under the direction of Roger Pettyjohn continues its active 1986 Spring/Summer schedule. May 18, the chorus gave a very successful benefit concert for G.L.O.E., Gay/Lesbian Outreach to Elders. Music included works by Leonard Bernstein, Randall Thompson, Paul Simon, Marvin Hamlisch, and Michael Core.

A portion of the proceeds from the Lesbian/Gay Chorus' March concert was given to the Statue of Liberty Restoration Fund. A very kind letter and certificate was sent to the chorus stating that the volunteers and staff of the Foundation wished to thank the chorus for its generous contribution toward the restoration and preservation of the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island.

The chorus is working very hard this Summer on many musical endeavors. Several more concerts are scheduled for June 27 and Aug. 1 and 5. For more information contact Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco, 5874 Castro St., San Francisco 94114, or call 566-6496.

Royal Coronation

The royal coronation of the Grand Duke and Grand Duchess will be held at Bimbo's Aug. 9, but before that, here's what you need to know. July 1 at 9 p.m. is the deadline for applications. They should be turned in at the Galleon, and are available at the Bay Area Reporter offices, located at 1528 15th Street.

July 2 the review board will review applicants for Grand Duke and Duchess at 7 p.m. at the Stallion. The candidates will be introduced at the 1986 Gay Community Awards July 13 in the Green Room of the War Memorial Building. The all-candidates nights will be as follows: July 15 at 8 p.m. at the Gangway; July 22 at 8 p.m. at the Kokpit; and July 29 at 8 p.m. at the Village.

The vote will take place Aug. 2. S.F. ID is required, and the voting will be tabulated by a licensed CPA. Aug. 7 the in-town awards will take place at Amelia's at 8 p.m., Aug. 8 the out-of-town awards will take place at 8 p.m. at M&M Productions, 10 Rodgers, and Aug. 9 will be the coronation.

Tricking Out

My, how times have changed! Five years ago, San Francisco's gay couples had such wide-open marriages one wondered if anyone ever stayed home long enough to feather the nest. However, the pressures of the current health crisis have altered gay life so substantially that old-fashioned social values—like fidelity—seem to be regaining their long-lost virtue. If, like former President Jimmy Carter, gay San Franciscans must limit their sexual sins to their hearts and minds, then at least they deserve some credit for doing a damned good job of controlling their lust by keeping matters firmly in hand.

For those who are married, this may be easier said than done. All too often, sexual boredom can cause married partners to seek out greener pastures. Whether or not a person actually consumes his appetite for a stran-

ger's charms, the mere fact that his affections have wandered can send a jealous lover up the wall. In cases where a lecherous old fool ends up learning a valuable lesson in humility, the dramatic results can be quite amusing and harmless. Often, the audience delights in a happy ending.

However, in many more situations, familiarity breeds contempt. When a jealous lover's range turns to violence or betrayal, the results are often devastating.

SUCH AN ITALIAN STALLION

Stool pigeons never fail to cause trouble, and santuzza's sexual frustration over Turridu's infidelities always get the best of her. Perhaps that's why any performance of Mascagni's *Cavalleria Rusticana* can usually be rated by how violently the prima donna chews the scenery. At this summer's revival of Jean-Pierre

Ponnelle's production, Fiorenza Cossotto took matters deftly in hand and in shawl. Alas, her powerful voice tended to get thin on many occasions. Cossotto was also forced to remain in hopeless poses of anguish for much longer than necessary. Under Anton Guadagno's baton, Ermanno Mauro was a hefty Turridu—the hero whose stiff dick knows no conscience until he's too drunk and it's too late. Kathryn Cowdrick was a pleasant enough Lola to counteract the effects of Cristiane Young's massive Mamma Lucia. I thought Piero Cappuccilli garnered rather excessive applause for his performance as the muleteer, Alfio. But, after the San Francisco Opera's dismal productions of *Il Trovatore* and *Lucia Di Lammermoor*, people may have been desperate to show



Members of the Royal Shakespeare Company got into some pretty heavy necking during a performance of Giordano Bruno's *Il Candelaio*.

their appreciation for some decent singing.

NO MORE CLOWNING AROUND

With domestic violence on the

rise in America, perhaps it would be wise to look at *Pagliacci* to see why so many relationships go up in smoke. In Leoncavallo's melodramatic opera, one is faced with

(Continued on page 73)

Phillip Campbell

A Separate Peace

I've been kicking ideas around for days, anticipating this column to celebrate Pride Week from the standpoint of the classical music scene. Since homophobia strikes every walk of life, I thought it might prove informative to rake some muck and lay bare atrocities at the Conservatory of Music or backstage at Davies Hall, but truth is, music may well be the one field of creative endeavor allowing gay people to come out and still succeed.

Regardless of attitudes at the Opera or Ballet, instrumentalists are primarily judged on talent and dedication. Armistead Maupin tells, amusingly, of former boss Kurt Herbert Adler's Neanderthal prejudices and we needn't look further than President Reagan's son Ron for evidence of stereotyping in the world of dance, but musicians seem able to survive without the closet.

There are incidents of bigotry. Gordon Getty's idiotic remarks on Shakespeare managed to find print in a Symphony program, but then Getty is rich and money can buy performance for second rate composition and publish churlish views as well. The Symphony's organization is generally more enlightened. Music remains the great communicator, transcending moral platitudes or sexual orientation.

I recently talked with a friend and discovered he's in the great San Francisco Symphony Chorus, under the direction of Vance George. I've been enjoying his work all season and didn't even know he was there. Working a full-time, non-musical job, he still manages to study, practice, rehearse, and perform. Quietly, but emphatically gay, he seems to epitomize the lifestyle of so many musicians.

Of course, the Chorus would be literally decimated if the gay singers left. The orchestra itself has a number of openly gay members. As for the audience, any arts organization which ignores or

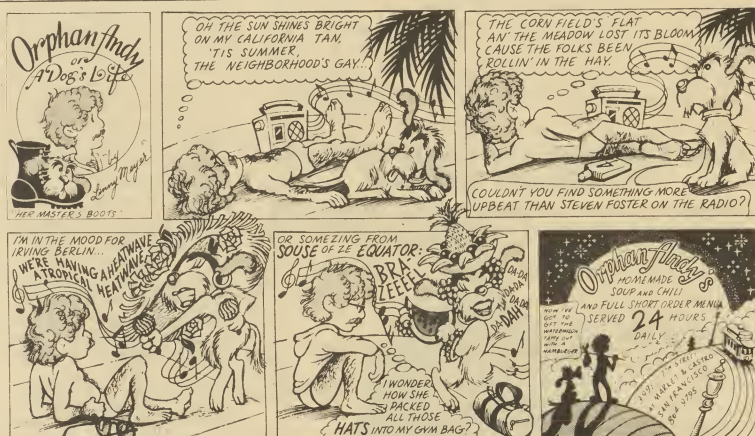
takes for granted the homosexual dollar is committing financial suicide.

As the film industry flounders in a climate that produces tragic closet cases like Rock Hudson, the music scene allows its members to be artists first and homosexual second. It's true ensemble players enjoy a certain degree of anonymity, permitting more freedom, but I seriously doubt a talented soloist would be denied opportunity.

There remains a need for gay performing societies. What would we do without the choruses or bands joyfully proclaiming our unique contributions? San Francisco is blessed with the excellent Society of Lesbian and Gay Composers, and there will always be a place for their separate voices. Still, in the years following Stonewall and facing, as we do now, a grave and frightening health crisis, the importance of reminding others of our common humanity is crucial.

Coming out appears to be the most basic of first steps. The average musician must find a certain nostalgia for the closet, when simply making a secure living is so difficult, but this is no time for caution. Our very lives depend on shattering stereotypes and ignorance. I do not favor a droning or dramatic approach, but the simple fact of our being must be accepted.

Absorbed in a chamber recital at Herbst Theatre last week, I was struck by the gentle feeling of civilized appreciation around me. These fellow beings applauded the conservators and creators of beauty onstage and there could be little doubt that music does, indeed, soothe the savage beast. I am proud of the gay artists who make life so meaningful. The peace that music brings to listeners and performers should never be isolated or intellectualized. This universal language must be the starting point of understanding. If you doubt it, just listen to Sistah Boom at the Parade Sunday. ●



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Boomer Summer

An Okinawan dance hall in *The Karate Kid Part II* has a 1950s motif with music to match. *Legal Eagles* opens with songs by Steppenwolf and the Raspals. *Back to School* and *Ferris Bueller's Day Off* both feature "Twist and Shout," and the list goes on.

Are they trying to lure baby boomers back to movie theaters this summer, or just the kids who grew up listening to their parents' record collections?

LEADEN FROTH

Not every old film by a great

director deserves to be called a "classic." When a picture is cut for American release and/or kept out of release for 30 years, there may be a good reason.

A case in point is *Elena and Her Men*, which was known as *Paris Does Strange Things* in 1957 and was a major disappointment of the San Francisco International Film Festival in 1986. Ingrid Bergman stars in this piece of leaden froth, probably Jean Renoir's worst film, as you can prove by comparing it to any of its co-features during this week's revival. (Castro)

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RALPH FOLLOWS THE 'SAN'

Cute cookie Ralph Macchio and fortune cookie Noriyuki "Pat" Morita do it again in *The Karate Kid Part II*. After 45 years Miyagi-san (Morita) is called back to Okinawa to his dying father's bedside. He takes up where he left off with his true love Yukie (Nobu McCarthy) and Sato (Danny Kamekona), the man he left to avoid fighting.

Faced with a choice between Okinawa and Fresno, Daniel (Macchio) goes along for the ride. Yukie has a niece (Tamlyn Tomita) for him to fall in love with and Sato has a nephew (Yuji Okumoto) for him to fight, so there are all the makings of a plot.

Like the *Rocky* sequels, *Karate Kid II* adheres so closely to the strengths of the original it's almost like seeing the same movie again. The villains may be Asian this time, but they're just as heavy-handed as the neo-Nazi preppies of *Part I*. There are few surprises in the story, but if the original had earned a million for every surprise its grosses would still be in six figures.

What counts is the heartwarming relationship between Miyagi—again portrayed exceptionally well by Morita—and his young disciple. At 24 Macchio plays a stupid teenager better than anyone since Matt Dillon graduated to playing stupid adults.

The Karate Kid Part II gives the mixed message that karate is only for defense but once you learn it you'll have plenty of opportunities to defend yourself. All this and Hawaiian (subbing for Okinawan) sunsets too. (North-point, Century Plaza, Grand Lake, Geneva D-I)

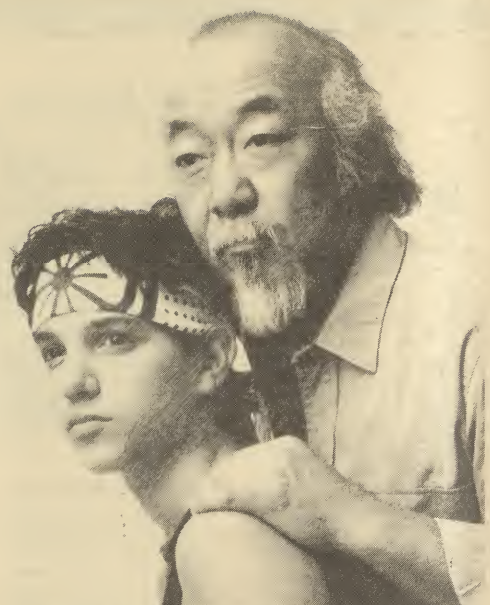
RED AND DEB FLY LOW

Intelligence and sophistication are the last things you'd expect from director Ivan Reitman, the man who gave us *Ghostbusters*, but he serves up those ingredients—albeit in moderation—in *Legal Eagles*. What's more surprising is how little humor he supplies with them.

Legal Eagles is a minor mystery, a *Murder, She Wrote* episode boosted to "A" status by excessive stardom. Robert Redford is an assistant district attorney who winds up working for the defense, helping Debra Winger investigate a complex art fraud case in which Daryl Hannah is accused of murder.

The easygoing Redford waits patiently for something funny to say or do. So does Winger, who has been so badly sabotaged by the makeup department I didn't know whether to write a review or a get well card. Hannah comes away best of the three, playing a Laurie Anderson-style performance artist.

Having done water in *Splash* and earth in *Clan of the Cave Bear*, Hannah continues her tour of the elements by playing with fire here. There are no fewer than five scenes with fires in *Legal Eagles*, compared to only three in which Redford takes his shirt off. Someone's obviously aiming for the pyromaniac crowd, so don't sit in the smoking section for this one. (Regency II, Grand Lake)



The Winner in the Trade Places with Steve Warren Contest: Noriyuki "Pat" Morita (r.) will write next week's column if Steve can take his place in this photo, clutching *Karate Kid* Ralph Macchio.

CAM-E-LITTLE

In 17th century Brazil slaves fled for freedom to the quilombo (their uopia or Camelot) of Palmares, much as gays have come to San Francisco to escape oppression. So there are lessons for us in Carlos (*Bye Bye Brasil*) Diegues' *Quilombo*: Know who our friends are and form coalitions with them, don't forget our brothers and sisters on the outside, never grow complacent, and don't let anyone divide us.

Unfortunately, this good stuff is all between the lines. The lines themselves are nowhere near as interesting. Music is always a key part of Brazilian films, but here the songs and dances, many of a ceremonial nature, serve to further break up a plot that's already too episodic, spanning some 50 years as it does. Several scenes are individually worthy, but there's not enough character or plot development to carry us from one to another over the musical interludes. (York)

A GOOD 'QUESTION'

Activists of all stripes can take heart from David L. Brown's *A Question of Power*, a cogent history of the antinuclear movement in California. The rest of you can fade away and radiate.

Starting just after Three Mile Island and finishing ten days before Chernobyl, Brown researched and compiled information and film footage going back to the 1950s, when Walt Disney promoted "Our Friend the Atom" and no one considered the dangers inherent even in "peaceful uses" of nuclear power.



Two Losers in the Debra Winger Lookalike Contest: Daryl Hannah (l.) and the alleged Winger in *Legal Eagles*

The focus is on PG&E's attempts to build nuclear power plants in California, especially the one at Diablo Canyon, and the popular resistance that delayed them while thousands of defects were corrected and ultimately made them abandon future nuclear projects even as Diablo Canyon was going online. A bit too much time is devoted to the basics of organizing and demonstrations, which become redundant.

A Question of Power reminds us that while nuclear accidents are the result of human error, one big one can rule out the possibility of future human error for all time. (Pacific Film Archive, 7/1; New Performance Gallery, 7/2; Roxie, 7/3; Channel 60, 7/14, 7 p.m.)

ANTI-AMERICAN

The first half of *American Anthem* comes from the MTV school of movie-making—as long as it's played loud and looks good, nothing else matters.

Mitch Gaylord was a high school football hero and promising gymnast until his father broke his arm—but don't worry, his hair didn't get mussed in the process. Janet Jones is a talented but undisciplined gymnast from New York. They meet in a gym in Gaylord's home town—Flagstaff, Arizona—where Jones has come to train with America's best coach, Russian Michael Pataki.

Gymnastics is a snap for both of them, but their family and attitude problems need work. The second half is a competition in Phoenix to choose a team to represent.

(Continued on next page)

Steve Warren

(Continued from previous page)

the dialogue is so bad Olivier and Streep couldn't save it.

Patrice Donnelly, Mariel Hemingway's *Personal Best* heartthrob, plays Danielle, a minor background character. Members of the appropriate genders should enjoy watching gymnasts Stacey Maloney and Maria Anz. Maloney looks like a younger, prettier Michael Greer and wears

present the U.S. in Rotterdam, presumably in *American Anthem II*.

The gymnastics routines are almost good enough to make you forget what a dumb movie you're watching. Gaylord is an Olympic gold medalist with a body to die for. It's incredible he would smoke cigarettes, but perhaps director Albert (Purple Rain) Magnoli had to augment the output of his ubiquitous fog machines. The acting requirements are simple enough that the stars don't disgrace themselves, but



Julie Lloyd as Janet Jones in *American Anthem*



The Winner of the 'Mr. Posing Strap Contest': Antonio Pompeo leads his people into battle in *Quilombo*

as much makeup. The best athletes in the film are Li Yuejiu and Megan Marsden.

If someone invites you to see *American Anthem* consider it a sporting proposition. In all other respects the movie's a loser. (Area Theaters)

CHICAGO HILLS CO-OP

Billy Crystal is a second-rate Joel Grey who once played a fag in a TV series and is now milking a multimedia career out of the line he took from Fernando Lamas. Gregory Hines, who's been dancing since he was born,

has been expanding into acting. In *Running Scared* they play Chicago cops—"the best of the worst"—who realize after 16 years that a guy could get killed that way.

They decide to take early retirement and buy a bar in Key West to retire to, but first they have to catch deadly drug kingpin Jimmy Smits.

The accent is on comedy, with Hines and Crystal making a marvelous team. They're so good together the action has to stop a dozen or so times for them to prove their heterosexual credentials,

Crystal with ex-wife Darlanne Fleugel and Hines with Tracy Reed, who tells him on their first date, "I think you friend's jealous"—meaning Crystal.

Running Scared isn't as funny as *Beverly Hills Cop* or as exciting as *The French Connection*, but it blends laughs and thrills well enough to make a pleasant summertime diversion.

That's what I love about this time of year—I can watch movies without thinking! (Area Theaters)

Tessi Tura

(Continued from page 71)

the bitter predicament of a couple who, in addition to torturing each other as jealous husband and cheating wife in private, must enact similar roles each night in public in order to eke out their living. When Nedda's hopes of fleeing the theater in order to embrace a life of domestic bliss force her to defy her possessive husband, the borders between life and art quickly blur. Canio's uncontrollable jealousy erupts with tragic consequences and, at the end of *Pagliacci*, the enraged actor informs his audience that "La commedia e finita." Canio's not kidding, either. Having just slain his wife—and the man with whom she was planning to elope—his theatrical career is in total ruin. So, for that matter, is his mind.

Under the direction of Vera Lucia Calabria, the San Francisco Opera's revival of *Pagliacci* did a thorough job of capturing the hatred and resentment simmering within Leoncavallo's one-act potboiler. While soprano Diana Soviero's voice may not be as pleasing as it was several years ago, she remains an artist of exceptional sensitivity and craftsmanship whose Nedda is at once desperately provocative and hopelessly trapped. Special kudos go to David Malis, whose Silvio was magnificently sung and convincingly acted. This handsome young baritone's talent continues to impress me each time I see him perform.

Others in the cast were Piero Cappuccilli (who delivered a superbly malevolent and lecher-

ous Tonio) and David Gordon, who offered audiences a sympathetic Beppe. As Canio, Ermanno Mauro came through with a large, forcefully dramatic portrayal of Leoncavallo's tragic clown, singing the role with rare vocal power and acting it with convincing brutality.

TAKE MY WIFE, PLEASE!

A much merrier bit of philtering took place during the Royal Shakespeare Company's production of *Il Candelajo*, which I recently saw in London at the Barbican Center's intimate 200-seat theater known as "The Pit." More than 300 years old, Giordano Bruno's marital farce about a rich and foolish candlemaker—who is so smitten with a courtesan that he loses his senses—proved to be a delicious romp. As directed by Clifford Williams and Paul Marcus, I was particularly attracted to Tina Marian's bawd, Lucia; Mel Martin's courtesan, Vittoria; and Ian Talbot's foolish pendant, Manfurio. As a doddering old alchemist, Roger Hyam's lust for gold over women seemed more than understandable. Anthony O'Donnell played the rogue Sanguino with great gusto. Bruce Alexander's portrayal of the candlemaker, Bonifacio, and David Bradley's Bartolomeo rounded out the fun.

And what happened to the foolish candlemaker? In the darkness of a courtesan's bedroom, he ended up making love to his own wife. And, in the long run, I suppose that's a lot better than killing her! •

Best of MBB

Jim Cvitanich and Mark Abramson, who have brought you three memorable years of Men Behind Bars and raised numerous thousands for local nonprofit organizations, are kicking off Gay Pride week with a video showing of the best of all three years of MBB as well as an auction of costumes and props from

the various shows, as well as other items no household can be without.

Join the casts and crews for an evening of laughs, goodtimes, memories, and possibly some embarrassments. So if you always wanted that gold lame Valkyries headress and gown, or one of those Hot Voodoo loincloths, come on out for a memorable evening. •

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Expo Yourself

Tips on the World Exposition

by Steve Warren

If you haven't already made plans to go to Expo 86, the World Exposition in Vancouver, B.C., Canada, the word from here is: Don't.

If you have made plans or you're one of those people who rightly think critics like me are full of shit, here are some tips on how to survive the Exposure.

First, I want to point out that Vancouver has obviously learned a lot from the recent debacles in New Orleans and Knoxville. Superior planning plus the coincidence of recent events that have soured Americans on the idea of visiting Europe this year have created a paradox: Expo is too good and too many people want to see it.

When I was there in mid-May the weekday attendance was approaching 100,000. They've said they expect 150,000 a day and will close the gates at 200,000. I'm not sure what the temperature was—I don't speak Celsius—but it was said to be unseasonably cool. I rarely had to remove my jacket. It felt like summer in San Francisco.

Imagine what it will be like when the fairgrounds are twice as crowded, the temperature much higher, and the friendly, courteous staff tired of hearing people bitch. I envision blood on the midway.

AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 MINUTES

For those of you who aren't deterred, here are some recommendations of what to see and how best to see it—especially if you don't have all the time in the world:

• **Be Prepared to Walk.** If you stroll the Expo grounds without stopping or going into any pavilions you can probably go around the world in 80 minutes, and that's a pleasant way to do it, especially to get a sense of the overall layout when you arrive.

Expo has the best facilities for the physically challenged I've seen anywhere, but if you're not wheelchair-bound you'll find walking is the fastest way to get around. The wait for the monorail is intolerable, and with a complex routing system it probably won't take you where you want to go. The SkyTrain is supposed to get you to the offsite Canadian Pavilion in four minutes. A round-trip took me 45 minutes.

• **Be Prepared to Wait.** It takes longer to get in to see almost everything than it does to see it. Crowd control techniques are as good as they get; but even at the British Columbia Discovery Pavilion, which disguises its long, winding ramp as a sylvan glade, you'll be aware that you're waiting a long time. Sometimes there are live musicians, strolling mimes, or other distractions—in warmer weather the crowd itself will be full of distractions—but if you're as impatient as I, you'll feel as if you've gone to hell and have to wait in an eternal line to get in.

If you're traveling with children, be prepared to amuse them during these long waits. Once they get inside, many of the pavilions have hands-on exhibi-



The Star Wars exhibit at Expo '86

(Photo: S. Warren)

tions to amuse them—when they can get past the adults who want to play, too.

• **Speak English.** That's no problem for those of you who are reading this, but I found the Exposition surprisingly monolingual for a world's fair, especially one held in a bilingual country. There are token uses of French, Canada's other official language. The most amusing was an announcement before one show that special headsets would provide a French soundtrack for those who needed it. The announcement was made only in English. Guides are available to answer questions in a variety of languages, but good luck finding the one you need when you need one. Just remember, a smile is a universal language.

• **Something's Fishy.** Did you know salmon is the primary cuisine of 54 countries? Just kidding. Not all the countries at Expo have restaurants, but most of those who do feature salmon on their menus. An exception is a U.S. fast food chain which has five eateries at the fair with no McSalmon in sight.

"Overpriced restaurants" was the complaint I heard most frequently. I would counter that while the prices in the "better" restaurants are fair, the portions are outrageously small. This is based on meals at the French and Hawaiian restaurants. The mid-price meals at the Canada Pavilion offer far better value for the money. The worst meal I had was at the place that sounded most politically correct, the First National (Canadian Indian) Restaurant. Their "buffalo steak" was made of ground meat and was more gristly, more expensive, and less tasty than the average hamburger.

• **Know What You're Doing.** Like visiting a foreign country, you should plan for a trip to Expo 86 by reading all you can about it and deciding what you want to see so you can organize your time—see all the highlights in one area before moving on to the next.

A ticket booth outside the geodesic dome known as Expo Centre distributes tickets in the morning for all the day's shows at the Omnimax and Futures Theatres. Make a beeline when the gates open.

In most other situations you go directly into whatever you wait in line for. An exception is the Canada Pavilion where, upon entering (after a wait), you are given a ticket to your choice of the CN or Teleglobe Theatre, for a specific show that may be several hours off.

• **Go to the Movies.** As a film freak my main interest in world

expositions and theme parks is in seeing the new techniques introduced there. The three highlights in this category are at locations referred to above.

Discovery, at the Discovery B.C. Pavilion, is in Douglas Trumbull's new 70mm Showscan process. Projected at 60 frames per second instead of the customary 24, it produces a video-like clarity. Fairuz Balk of *Return to Oz* stars in this silly fantasy, giving aliens in a red plastic spaceship a tour of British Columbia. The highlight is a trip on skis, analogous to the rollercoaster ride in *This Is Cinerama*.

A Freedom to Move is in "Canada's first and the world's largest" Omnimax theater, at Expo Centre. The screen not only wraps around from side to side but curves well overhead to envelope you more fully. This is the best film in terms of content, truly illustrating the Exposition's theme, "World in Motion—World in Touch."

Transitions, in the CN Theatre at the Canada Pavilion, is in the 3-D Imax process (glasses furnished). As 3-D always promised, it "puts you in the picture" on a giant screen, with a hunk in your lap, pigs nibbling at your nuts, a horse galloping through your groin, and a robot breaking an egg over your head. A fence's touche really seems to touch you.

Compared to these "big three," such techniques as Circle-Vision 360—which I've never liked much—seem old hat.

With so much Canadian presence already, it would be nice if the National Film Board of Canada had a theater with continuous showings of their classic short subjects, especially animated ones.

• **Rampant Redundancy Is Rampant and Redundant** With 54 countries, three states and nine provinces/territories showing off their transportation and communication, you're bound to get some repetition. I mean, what can you do with a train? The pavilions are modular units, although interior designs create great variety. Multiple video screens are a popular technique ranging from groups of nine (Italy, Thailand) to 108 (Canada). Some of China's displays look like high school science fair projects, including Expo's largest collection of "do not touch" signs.

Russia, by contrast, is very high tech and very friendly. "Transport and communication for peace and cooperation," announces one sign. "We want to see only non-military space missions," says another. The USSR Pavilion also has a fashion show, heavy on furs. Your reporter al-

(Continued on page 77)

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How Does It Work?

Take a look at the questionnaire to the right, and you will see just how specific you can get as to the types of guys you can meet and the types of relationships you can specify. And you can restrict your matches to those who share your feelings about "playing safe."

ComQuest's matching system, using a high speed computer, analyzes your detailed questionnaire responses and compares each of your "weighted" "ideal match" descriptive responses with the corresponding "self" descriptive responses of all current members, and vice versa, keeping track of the 20 members having the highest matching scores.

What Does It Cost, And What Do I Get?

This is the best part. For only \$30 you get the contact information for the 20 people who are your best matches from our current pool of several hundred members. And you get a six month membership, during which other new and current members may be matched to you and receive your contact information on their lists of matches (if you choose to be listed, that is). You can know of these matches only when they contact you.

With your first set of matches those responding to this ad will receive a coupon worth \$5 toward any ComQuest services, in addition to membership pamphlets containing advice on how to "break the ice" when contacting other members and hints on using ComQuest services.

You may order additional sets of matches (\$10), make changes in your application data (\$10), or both (\$15), and cancel or reinstate your contact information listing (free) at any time during your six month membership.

How Can I Be Sure I'll Get My Money's Worth?

ComQuest has received many unsolicited testimonials from members who have become lovers or who have met the guys they played with or served. (Not to mention the guys who have played with or served ComQuest's service.) (Not to mention the guys who have played with or served ComQuest's service.) (Not to mention the guys who have played with or served ComQuest's service.)

OK, I'll Try It. How Do I Fill Out This Form?

This is the hard part. But it can be a lot of fun, too. It is very important to do it right. If you do not follow the instructions you will probably get poor matches, and it will cost you up to \$15 to do it again. Refer to the application form to the right when reading the following instructions. Read them carefully!

Questionnaire Instructions

Step 1. Enter your mailing address (for our confidential use).
Step 2. Enter your contact information, and a brief description of yourself and/or your interests (so new members can contact you).

Step 3. Describe Yourself by circling the word me beside each descriptive item which is a true description of yourself. You should circle at least one me under each category. Circle more than one, where appropriate.

Step 4. Describe Your Ideal Match by circling the word veto, no, ok, or yes beside each and every item (including those by which you circled me) to indicate to what extent you would want them to be true of your match. Circle exactly one of these responses per item.

Circle yes if you would like for that description to be true for your match. (This is a "vote for a trait,"—not a guarantee.)

Circle ok if you don't care one way or the other. (This is an "abstention"—no vote either way.) Lines left blank count as ok. Circle no if you would not like for that description to be true for your match. (This is a "vote against"—not a "disqualification.")

Circle veto if you want no matches with anyone for whom that description is true, even if they have other desirable qualities. (This is a "disqualification."—no one is not affected by category rank.) We recommend that you circle 10 to 20 vetos to restrict your matches to those who share your feelings about "playing safe," age, race, residence, and other important traits of your matches.

Note: We guarantee 20 matches minus your number of vetos over 10. For example you are guaranteed 13 matches if you circle 17 vetos. If you circle 30 or more vetos you are not guaranteed any matches. You will receive one dollar credit per match less than the guaranteed number, applicable to future ComQuest orders.

Step 5. Rank the Categories. The questionnaire is divided into 16 categories. To insure that your responses on less important items will not override your responses on the more important items, you must indicate which items are important to you. There are two ways, using the blank to the left of each category heading. Either:

Rank each category from 1 to 15 in its order of importance to you, with 1 as the most important and 15 as the least (use each number once), or

Put a check mark in the blank beside the flag most important category headings, leaving the rest blank.

Note: Your matches will be based mostly upon the more important categories, with the less important ones serving only as tie breakers. No's and yes's have very little effect in the lower ranked, or unchecked categories. Some of your matches may have traits by which you circled no (vetos work the same regardless of category rank.)

Example: Here is an example of how a hairy man with a mustache looking for a smooth partner with a mustache should mark the form if he regarded "Facial/Body Hair" as his second most important category.

What's the Final Step?

When you have completed the application, carefully remove it from this publication, and mail it and a check or money order for \$30 to the address at the bottom of the questionnaire.

How Long Will It Take?

You will normally receive your matches within 14 days of our receipt of your application. Please call us after 21 days if you fail to receive your order by then.

ComQuest Application for San Francisco/Sacramento

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Step 1 - Please print your name and mailing address below. This is only for our use in mailing you your matches, and is kept confidential.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ (optional)

Phone _____

I hereby affirm that I am at least 18 years of age and that I will hold neither ComQuest nor its owners liable for the behavior of the people I meet as a result of its services. (Your signature and date are required.)

Signed _____ Date _____

Steps 3, 4, and 5: See instructions

Residence _____

San Francisco _____

East Bay (Oakland) _____

Penninsula (Palo Alto) _____

San Jose area _____

San Francisco Bay Area _____

Stockton/Mokelumne River _____

Modesto area _____

Stockton/Mokelumne River _____

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Stockton/Mokelumne River _____



ComQuest™

Computer Matching

Cut along dotted line

Cut along dotted line

Step 2 - Please print the "contact information" below which will enable new applicants who get matched to you to contact you. This must include at least your first name and either a mailing address or phone number. You are limited to 25 letters, spaces, and punctuation per line. You may use any remaining space to briefly describe yourself and your interests. If you do not wish for others to contact you, cross out this section.

Step 3 - Please print the "contact information" below which will enable new applicants who get matched to you to contact you. This must include at least your first name and either a mailing address or phone number. You are limited to 25 letters, spaces, and punctuation per line. You may use any remaining space to briefly describe yourself and your interests. If you do not wish for others to contact you, cross out this section.

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Send completed form with \$30 (check or money order) to:

ComQuest P.O. Box 369, Lake Zurich, IL 60047

Ph. (800) 633-6969 (24 hr. toll free)



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FORWARD TOGETHER

NO TURNING BACK!

The Imperial Question

Empress XX Sissy Spaceout Talks About What It Means to be Royal in the '80's

by Ron Bluestein

With aplomb in his bearing and a cigarette in his mouth, he made it look like the simplest thing in the world to do. In his 1985 reign, Empress XX of San Francisco Sissy Spaceout meshed punk and camp into a glittering Imperial Butterfly Galactica Court that also brought together a new generation of royalty with the old. In his year on the throne, Sissy not only continued the Imperial tradition of charity and giving, he revitalized the Court as one of the most active fundraising institutions of the San Francisco gay community. Not since the first Empress, the Widow Norton Jose Sarria himself, had there been such a queen, and in recognition of this, the Widow presented Sissy with an inscribed gold ring by the graveside of the Emperor during the last moments of the Spaceout administration.



Empress XX Sissy Spaceout (l.) and Empress XIX Remy Martin at the Royal Investiture which crowned Empress Sable Clown (Photo: Rink)

One look at Sissy Spaceout and you know you're dealing with something altogether new in the history of drag. He's young, and dressed up he looks—with his piercing eyes and high cheekbones—like a smart punk porn starlet. Vying with his achievements for distinction is Sissy's hair; in fact Sissy's hair is one of his achievements. Patti LaBelle's influential triple Mohawk hairdo originated, says Sissy, on his head when a member of LaBelle's staff saw the S.F. Empress in the L.A. Gay Pride Parade. "I didn't prompt LaBelle to say it," says Sissy. "She gave me credit when she introduced me at the Fairmont."

The triple Mohawk was the least of Sissy's contributions; he brought a kind of carriage and credibility, not to mention flair, to the position of Empress that hadn't been seen or felt in years.

"It would be nice to say that I was responsible for all that change," Sissy said, "but one of the people who started the changes in the Court was Empress Remy Martin. She was the first empress who could sit down with the Concerned Republicans as well as serve on the Gay Pride Committee. Remy was a reasonable, hard-working, intelligent empress, and a parliamentary expert. I came along, and I'm not quite the meeting person she is, but I'm a responsible person. I can participate at a meeting, and I was a little flashier Empress. You never knew what I would wear."

The Spaceout Court had a new look and a new feel. Sissy helped strengthen and reaffirm the community service ideal that was the goal of the Widow Norton's first reign.

my own pocket. I went to all of these things *in drag*—it's one of the first times this has happened—in most cases with their invitation, a couple of times without, but never a bad reaction. I probably served as an auctioneer at about 50 events and I emceed countless others."

The Court's activities are numberless. "We participated with the Gay Games," Sissy continued, "we worked on the Gay Pride Parade fundraisers. I don't even count the money that the present Empress Sable, Desiree and I raised at the Up Your Alley Street Fair when we sold kisses. We raised \$500 that day! That's only one example."

In addition to helping other charities, the Empress Council has adopted the Coming Home Hospice and the Godfather Service Fund as their personal cause. "The Godfather Service Fund started with Paul Seidler and is now part of the Tavern Guild. There is no administrative cost; it's all volunteer help with the Guild managing the funds. They have a kit they've put together with shaving items and a little teddy bear and it's given to every patient on Ward 5B. We raised \$8,000 on our own for this fund."

The Empress of San Francisco's dominion extends beyond the 49 square miles of the foggiest populace either side of Everest. Imperial Courts from Calgary to Waikiki look to San



Emperor Ken Wright and Empress Sissy Spaceout at the beginning of their year (Photo: Rink)

Francisco for whatever it is people look to San Francisco for. Sissy travelled extensively, helping create and consolidate a National Court System.

"Combined, Emperor Ken Wright and I went to about 34 coronations," said Sissy. "Our philosophy was to go out and meet people; they did not need to come to us. I went to coronations where San Francisco had never been—Bellingham, Washington, Dallas, Eugene. I'm very proud of that. I had a great deal of fun at those smaller places."

One of the things that happened to me in Bellingham that sort of made the whole year worthwhile was—well, first I didn't quite know where Bellingham was; I thought it was in Montana. But I had promised somebody I'd go, so I went. I got there and was quite surprised to find out it was in Washington. And people from the major courts around there, like the Court of Seattle, were absolutely dumbfounded

that I would traipse to a sort of 'second rate' coronation. It happened to turn out to be an excellent coronation. I was sitting there and I had done a number, and this young man came up to me and said 'You're from San Francisco?' I said yes and he said, 'Well, I'm going down on my Dad's fishing boat in a couple of weeks. Where should I go, to meet people like this?' I said, 'You mean gay people?' He said yes and I said 'Go to Castro Street.' He said, 'I've never been to a gay function before; this is the first time.' So we talked a long time about coming out and being involved. The Court System does help a lot of people come out. Harvey Milk once said, a long time ago, that if you could talk one person into moving to San Francisco or help one person come out, you've done something. I really felt at that moment that it was worth the whole year. If I did nothing else, there was this one kid I had helped." ●



Royal Romp—Emperor Ken and Empress Sissy greet their subjects (Photo: Rink)

Nobody's Business

Long Road To Love: A True Story of Hope for the Homosexual
by Darlene Bogle, Chosen Books
by Frank Howell

One day the Hayward Public Library had an unexpected visitor. Darlene Bogle, a rather plump, short woman with glasses, walked in and beheld an exhibit of books and pictures that proclaimed, in effect, we are proud of what we are. The collection was sponsored by the Pacific Center in Berkeley. Hayward was not unique in playing host to a gay display. Other public libraries allowed the innocent to view the materials without incident.

But Bogle is not one of the innocents of this world. She views herself as an ex-lesbian destined to save others from a similar, dark fate. What she saw in the round plastic display case did not square with her beliefs. This to her was an offense in the sight of God. She left the library and gathered a number of signatures on a petition stating such a spectacle did not belong in a family setting. Her formal complaint was submitted to the library commission for review.

The commission meeting was opened to the public and some 60 interested parties attended. Testimony, both pro and con, was offered, including that of a professor from the local college.

The ladies on the library board took the enlightened view that the homophile opinion de-

served consideration and could, therefore, remain in the library. A compromise was reached. At the conclusion of the exhibit, Bogle and her supporters could set up a display of their own.

A month later, the gay depiction of people coming out of their closets was replaced by pictures of smiling mothers clutching smiling infants and children. God had surely spoken.

After the controversy died down, Darlene vanished from the scene. But now she re-emerges with *Long Road to Love: A Story of True Hope for the Homosexual*.

With the dawn of the Reagan-Falwell age, the so-called "ex-gay" movement has apparently thrived. The public is naturally told what it wants to hear; that gays can really change with God's help if they really want to. Scores of Homosexual Anonymous groups are sprouting up and are uncritically accepted. The problem is that no scientific analysis has been conducted which follows the progress of "reformed" homosexuals over a long period of time. A number of these individuals have slid from the wagon of salvation and re-emerged as ex-ex gays. Ah well, as one former homosexual said, "Now the only time I think of a man is when I masturbate."

As the heated debate rages on,

several automated teller machines at Expo, from which you can make direct withdrawals if you have a card from a Plus System bank in the U.S. (Bank of America, Chase Manhattan, etc.).

• **Plan Ahead.** There are a finite number of rooms for an infinite number of visitors, so don't wait to shop around when you get there. Major shows and concerts are sold out the day tickets go on sale.

If you'd like to stay in a gay or lesbian private home call Pacific Lambda Housing '86 at (604) 251-9713. Metropolitan Community Church of Vancouver is offering free housing (for a donation to AIDS Vancouver) to members of other MCC's. Your local church should have applications.

• **O, Canada!** Sure, the host country has the advantage, but they really make the most of it. The staff, mostly young and underpaid, are friendly, attractive, and genuine. You can hardly help but see some exhibits of the scenic wonders of Canada. If you're on as tight a schedule as I was you'll regret not having time to explore them in person.

THE LAST WORD

No, I'm not sorry I went to Expo 86, despite moments of frustration that added up to hours. I'm glad I went before the heat and the crowds got as bad as they will in the summer. Your best bet now is to wait until after Labor Day when things quiet down again. Expo continues through October 13.

The redundancy mentioned earlier may become monotonous if you trudge through enough displays, but it may also leave you with a subliminal message about the similarities that bind the nations of the world. If we can build from there instead of letting our leaders divide us, perhaps there's hope for the future after all. •

Darlene tells her own story, insisting she has discovered the path to true redemption. The Bogle saga is indeed a sad one. She suffered child abuse from an early age in a chronically unstable family where the parents moved around frequently. An adult also raped her. She weaved in and out of religious guilt, repenting one minute and switching into lesbian relationships the next. Finally, at the climactic moment, a close friend, in a fit of religious frenzy, commands the devil to flee from Diane's body. At last she is free.

One question we may well ask, is she really gay or is she perhaps bisexual? No one except the person in question can know if he or she truly evolved into a genuine heterosexual. We can only take their word for it. Many so-called ex-gays never marry or conceive children. Is this because of a failure to relate to the opposite sex in a traditional manner? Diane would simply reply that a lack of marriage must be God's will.

More books like *Long Road to Love* will appear, but none of the mainstream publishers seem to promote the ex-gay view. Such books are only printed by small, fundamentalist publishing houses such as Chosen Books. The ex-gay movement and the spread of AIDS constitute the last hope these God-fearing folks possess of stopping the gay movement.

We can only wish Diane well and hope she continues to find the happiness that escaped her for so long. There can be no real winners in such a debate. We simply embrace the lifestyle which fulfills our basic human need for warmth and intimacy. God understands this. We can only hope that Diane does. ■

Ninety Hollow Pages

Safe Sex in the Age of AIDS for Men and Women
by Robert T. McIlvanna, Wardell B. Pomeroy, Loretta Haroian, Erwin J. Haerberle, and Charles Moser
Citadel Press, \$3.95
by Marv Shaw

How about \$3.95 for a ridiculously inflated pamphlet? That is exactly what this shameful little product is. There are 90 pages in this "book," 20 of which have printing on less than half the page length, seven on only half. The type size and line spacing would be appropriate for a first grade primer, making even the full pages looked puffed.

Even with the topic isolation and typography appearance taken into account, the makeup

safe sex is fun and to use his/her imagination.

Otherwise, there is next to no inducement to practice safe sex. The advice is so flat and antiseptic that performing the acts is more like following a strict diet and straining through a set of calisthenics, all the while telling yourself you are enjoying the process because it is good for you.

Early in the fall of 1984, I interviewed four psychotherapists on the relationship of AIDS to

'Save your money. Consult local authorities.

of this rip-off can't be justified. A typical example is the four lines for Oral Intercourse on page 32, the entire page!

But what of the content? So much of it is now common knowledge most readers would be reading what they already know. By far the most exposition is devoted to what one should not do sexually. OK, but the pages of this newspaper have carried such proscriptions for a long time, as have numerous other publications.

Despite the title, only about one-eighth of the material is about safe sex. Here too the recommendations are familiar—hugging, dry kissing, mutual masturbation, the use of condoms. The reader is advised that

the mental health of gay men. One, Leon McKusick, stated that one of the greatest challenges was the effective eroticizing of safe sex. When I picked up this book, that was one of the objectives I expected to see realized. No way!

It is difficult to believe this inadequate little tome has been put on the market through the Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Sexuality, with such a prestigious figure as Wardell Pomeroy figuring among the authors.

Save your money. Consult local authorities. If you are dubious about the pleasures of safe sex, read the fiction featuring it now hitting the bookstores. ■

Steve Warren

(Continued from page 74)

most created an international incident by asking a Soviet official at a press conference whether this was in response to the Wendy's commercial. His reply, in short, was "Nyet."

Members of the Kirov Ballet also held a press conference, where someone asked about the reasons for the defection of Nureyev, Baryshnikov, etc. Artistic Director Oleg Vinogradov replied, "They made their own choice and I think they helped you (in the West) to create your own ballet. I don't feel the desire to defect. You should ask the defectors."

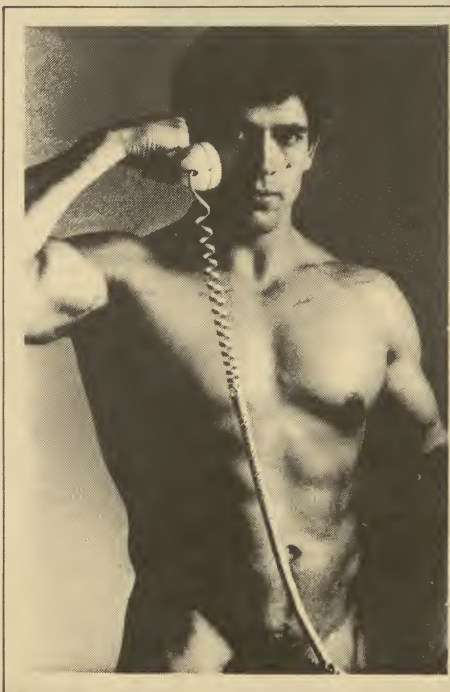
An example of redundancy and how to fight it is in the South Pacific Pavilion, where eight tiny nations vie for attention with cultures that look pretty much alike to most of us. Papua New Guinea stands out with a carved fertility god with the dick of death, while Vanuatu has lots of pictures of young boys and men wearing loincloths and less.

• **Also See . . .** *Spirit Lodge* at the General Motors Pavilion; the Jollyball Machine at the Swiss Pavilion.

• **Musts to Avoid:** The Observation Tower—\$2 to go up and down and get an overview of the Exposition through scratchy windows, no good for photographs; the Czechoslovakia Pavilion—one of the longest waits for one of the worst shows.

• **Bring Money.** U.S. dollars are accepted everywhere on the Expo grounds, but not all over Vancouver. The Exposition sets the exchange rate each day for all its vendors, not bad but you'll do better at a bank. Remember prices are in Canadian dollars, so subtract about 25 percent to figure what they are in "real" money. Royal Bank of Canada has

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FORWARD TOGETHER

NO TURNING BACK!

Gay Paree

Visit the French Capital for 'Le Gay Time':
Vive the Broad . . . Minets . . . Quai d'Austerlitz

by Gerard Koskovich

Oscar Wilde once said, "When good Americans die, they go to Paris." Those of us who are slightly naughty are permitted to visit while still living. And gay Americans make up a significant proportion of the slightly naughty who take the trip—or dream at home of life in "Gay Paree."

The subject of gay life in the French capital could fill several books—and has. Unfortunately, all are in French and are largely unavailable here. Given this state of affairs, it's no surprise that gay men and lesbians I encounter often ask about gay culture when they discover my inveterate enthusiasm for things French.



Gay activist Jacques Vandemborghe (l.) and friend Jean LeBitoux in Vandemborghe's apartment in Paris

(Photo: Gerard Koskovich)

I usually tell such nascent Francophiles an anecdote or two about Paris, teach them a few expressions their high school French class overlooked, and venture some comparisons of urban gay life in the United States and France. Then I make a mental note to pull this chatter into an article sometime.

Lesbian/Gay Freedom Week—when gay people from across the country crowd into San Francisco—seems an appropriate time to take a brief look at one of our genuine "sister" cities. Here, then, a collage of images—half silly, half serious—from my files on gay Paris.

"People in Paris are really awful," a friend once assured me. "They hate Americans. You should hear how they treated my parents!"

Like wisdom-tooth horror stories, I frequently heard remarks of this ilk as I prepared for sojourns in Paris in 1983 and again last summer. After spending nearly nine months there in the past three years, I often wonder if Parisians only hate American heterosexuals—or if only heterosexual Parisians hate Americans.

I encountered none of this legendary anti-American sentiment among gay people. In fact,

French gay culture reveals a marked fascination with American gay life. Consider these gay bar and restaurant names in Paris, for example: San Francisco Night, Fire Island, Melrose's (that's a major Los Angeles thoroughfare, you City snobs), or simply l'Amerique.

American gay slang also has found its way wholesale into Parisian gay usage: Enlightened Anglophone travellers without a word of French would have no trouble with *le cock-ring*, *le back-room*, *le fist-fucking*, *le safer-sex*, *le poppers* (that's right, "poppers" is singular in French).

This enthusiasm for American and Americans often astonished me. On my initial visit to Le Village, a small neighborhood bar renowned as the first in Paris to install picture windows, the bartender spotted my American accent.

"From the States?" he asked in French. I fessed up. "Oh, I really love Americans," he reassured me, then leaned over the bar and added confidentially, "I like them so much, I even hope the franc keeps falling! That way, we'll have more American tourists."

Parisian gay culture is, of course, much more than a modern import. The city has a

rich gay social history extending back to the 16th century and before, reflecting a variety of native developments and foreign influences. Fragments of the past remain in place for visitors with a bit of knowledge and an attentive eye.

One of my first stops in Paris—and a place where I return frequently—was the Pere-Lachaise Cemetery. This splendid expanse of mouldering tombs has been the final destination for many of the most distinguished residents of Paris since the beginning of the 18th century.

Among the late and great interred at Pere-Lachaise is a veritable who's who of gay men and lesbians: Cambaceres, author of the Code Napoleon, the body of law that made sodomy legal in France, the novelists Collette and Marcel Proust, and that dear girl from Oakland who made good, Gertrude Stein.

A granite tomb in the far reaches of the cemetery is the one that has established Pere-Lachaise as a place of pilgrimage for gay men since the Belle Epoque: Under a monument featuring an Egypto-kitsch winged nude male rests Oscar Wilde.

The bland inscription on the back of the marker makes no reference to the reason for Wilde's exile in Paris, but a graffiti artist has scratched the appropriate words: "Martyr of the Gays of the World." Parisian legend adds this redeeming detail: if gay lovers swear on the winged male's genitals, it is said the couple will never be parted.

Gay life in contemporary Paris offers a variety of lively diversions from the raw to the refined. Because the city is geographically compact—much like San Francisco—a broad range of possibilities falls within the scope of one vigorous walk or a couple of easy metro rides.

For twinkie enthusiasts, the greatest magnet in the French capital is The Broad, located at 3, rue de la Feronnerie, near the cavernous Chatelet subway station. Parisians refer to the comely young fellows with flashy clothes and terminal attitude who inhabit this and similar dance bars as *minets* ("kittens").

Drawing on many hours of observation, I once compiled a list of twinkie/minet distinctions. A few of the most essential: Twinkies have blue eyes and blond hair; minets have green eyes and brown hair. Twinkies

drive sports cars; minets have first class metro passes (daytime) or cab fare (evenings). Twinkies barely speak English; minets barely speak English.

My friend Jacques Vandemborghe, a gay activist and writer, showed me the opposite extreme of Parisian gay types and territories last summer. After a civilized dinner at Amazonial, a gay restaurant down the street from The Broad, we took an extended stroll across the city and along the quiet Seine.

Well to the east of the usual tourist haunts, we arrived at the Quai d'Austerlitz, an enormous, largely abandoned warehouse open on one side to the port of the City of Paris. Rows of concrete piers that divide the space created shifting patterns and

United States in 1984, I asked him to compare French and American gay life. He looked deep into his morning cup of coffee, took a particularly long drag on his cigarette, and ventured some observations.

"People are more physical in the United States—they touch your arm or shoulder when they talk to you," he said. "That's very nice, because in France, there's more distance between people, which is probably a result of our heritage of politesse."

But Jacques saw a flip side of this apparent intimacy. "Gay people here (in the U.S.) are more—well, I don't want to say superficial—but they don't attach the same importance to love," he said.

'Gay life in contemporary Paris offers a variety of lively diversions from the raw to the refined. Because the city is geographically compact—much like San Francisco—a broad range of possibilities falls within the scope of one vigorous walk or a couple of easy Metro rides.'

blind spots as we penetrated the intense darkness.

Men in jeans and leather moved in the shadows, pausing behind pilings or stepping momentarily into the moonlight at the edge of the river. Jacques wandered off. I crept further from the entrance. Here and there, men approached one another; in a corner, one knelt before another whose head tilted back in pleasure.

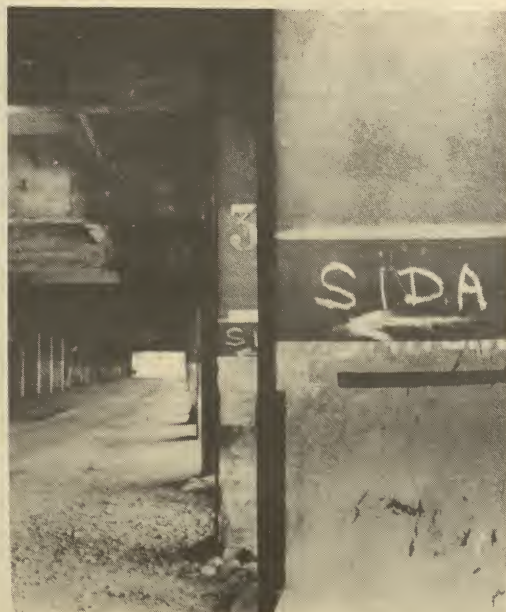
Needless to say, no minet could afford the dry-cleaning bills that would result from activity of this sort. And no amount of attitude could fend off the sense of danger, mystery, and exhilaration there.

When Jacques visited the

I think his observations hold some validity. The easy amiability of Americans, the formality and emotional constancy of the French are qualities that many have noted. And they explain, in part, the enduring appeal of gay Paris for Americans, and of gay Americans for the French.

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Gerard Koskovich is a freelance writer living in Palo Alto, CA. His article on gay and lesbian young people in Paris, co-authored with Jean Le Bitoux, is forthcoming in the Journal of Homosexuality.



The Quai d'Austerlitz

(Photo: Gerard Koskovich)

FORWARD TOGETHER

NO TURNING BACK!

Heroes Remembered

Author Discovers Gay Military Love Letters Tell Story of Gays in World War II

by Jay Newquist

Writer Alan Berube is telling the story for the first time of the more than one million gay men and lesbian women who served heroically in the Armed Forces during World War II.

His book-in-progress, which will be published in late 1988 by Free Press (a division of Mac-Millan), chronicles the lives of soldiers and WACs who dared to be homosexual in uniform during the 1940s.



Alan Berube

Berube has pieced together the fabric of these unheralded lives through actual government documents, diaries, and personal interviews which he said demonstrate when the military first started its anti-gay hysteria.

"It's clear through some 3,000 declassified documents and confidential memos that the military first decided to set up an anti-gay policy and enforce it during the war," Berube said recently. "The war forced many servicemen and women away from small towns into same-sex environments near big cities. It was a national coming-out process."

A key incident that compelled Berube to start his book was the discovery of hundreds of letters in the Potrero home of a recently deceased gay man. These letters told of an entire network of gay lives and relationships through correspondence between friends and lovers in the service.

"It was just incredible to see this material jammed into cardboard boxes," Berube said. "I spread the letters out on the floor of my apartment. There were also pictures. The whole thing unfolded before my eyes like a high school yearbook."

He said the letters revealed these correspondents were both pleased and discontent about their homosexuality. "There was a lot of conflict on a personal level. These people are content among themselves, they camp it up together, but with their parents there are coming out letters that show they are ashamed and angry," Berube said.

The 39-year-old author, who has lived in San Francisco since 1974, dropped out of the University of Chicago in 1968 following the murder of his best friend in the wake of riots coinciding with the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

He said one-third of his class left the university in the same year that many were drafted to serve in Vietnam.

Berube said he has always been interested in gay and lesbian history and he has produced slide shows and printed articles on the subject. He completed "Lesbian Masquerade" in 1979 (later retitled "She Even Chewed Tobacco"), and the articles "Marching to a Different Drummer" for the *Advocate* in 1981 and "Coming Out Under Fire" for *Mother Jones* in 1983.

He also wrote a history of gay and lesbian bars in San Francisco from the 1930s to the 1960s. In the past, Berube has worked to make ends meet while he wrote as a word processor, typist, and receptionist. He continues to show his slide shows, which he estimated have been presented more than 100 times in the U.S. and Canada.

Berube has been given a publisher's advance to write his book and he said he was very pleased with Free Press. Unlike the lament of many writers, he was approached by several publishers who wanted to handle his manuscript.

"They are publishing it as a commercial/scholarly book for wide distribution, and they'll

market it as social history," he said.

Berube only managed to pry the declassified documents from the military through the Freedom of Information Act. He said that his xerox bill has amounted to several thousand dollars. He said he had nothing but praise for the people at the National Archives, while the Navy and the U.S. Senate were difficult (The Senate is not included in the Freedom of Information Act, he reported).

Berube estimated that he has assembled more information about gay and lesbian servicemen and women than he can possibly handle, including 80 oral interviews, some 100 more planned for the future, plus letters and diaries. He has created the World War Two Project to house all the material as public archives for future generations.

In his research Berube reported that gays were locked out of the military during World War II for homosexual activities or if they were merely perceived to be gay. "They'd often never get out of jail unless they gave the names of their sex partners," he said. A policy toward the end of the war, according to the author, placed some gays in a "salvageable category" when there was a shortage of manpower.

Berube said he reached the unexpected conclusion that modern gays and World War II veterans shared a similar experience: gays are watching their loved ones die from AIDS while veterans were watching their comrades die from attrition.

What else has Berube learned from his investigation?

"The 1940s have really come alive for me," he said. "We have an image of our [gay] history that the farther back we go, the more oppressive it gets. It's not like that. It swings back and forth. I'm struck by how open these gay men and lesbian soldiers were and how good they generally felt about themselves."

Berube said he had also learned that the military's current anti-gay policy is the most absolute it has ever been.

He concluded it is important to tell the story of homosexuals in the military during World War II immediately because we can't afford to lose that part of our history.

"A lot of gays and lesbians put their lives on the line when they didn't have to. They could have stayed out," he said.

"They deserve to be remembered."

Life Begins At 40

As The Gay Community Ages, Many Men Find It's True

by Marv. Shaw

In the midst of Gay Pride Week in 1972, it occurred to Jordan Lee that precious little attention was being paid to the needs of older gay men and lesbians. His concern led to the formation of a discussion group of six people at the Metropolitan Community Church.

From that beginning has evolved G-40 Plus, with over 350 people on its mailing list and two meetings a month, with average attendance over 70. This history and commentary was given to *B.A.R.* by Lee and Wade Pierce recently at the First Unitarian Church of San Francisco, the group's home base.

The first formal meeting under its adopted name took place in a private home in August 1973, with thirteen attending. Intended to include both men and women originally, the women left when a group exclusively for lesbians was formed in Marin County. Outreach to women is still offered from time to time, but it hasn't been successful in attracting a stable female attendance.

"I'm afraid they feel overwhelmed when they do come," Lee explained, "with so many men here."

Nevertheless, there are connections. On the day of the interview, the women writers from Gay and Lesbian Outreach for Elders were guests for a presentation. The program was typical of a G-40 Plus meeting, which will often feature speakers, with a social hour following.

A primary major purpose was to provide a social and educational alternative to the bars, a more humanized environment in which older gays could relate in a relaxed atmosphere and share experiences. It was also seen as a possible way to change the attitudes of younger gay men to their elders.

According to Lee and Pierce, this purpose has not been as much realized as the members would like. As Lee sees it, the reason lies in the inability of the younger men to recognize that they too will grow old.

Both long-time members stressed that the attendees value most of the positive changes in self concept that occur, with all the old stereotypes and spurious mythology about the isolation and bitterness of older gays contradicted. Pierce especially emphasized the extended family feeling that prevails.

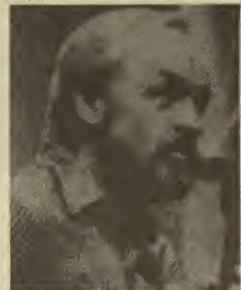
As Lee looked back over the history, he saw the matter of getting known as the main problem. Because so many gay men could not see the relevance to their own lives, it was hard to get the word throughout the gay community. Many older men were also deeply closeted. However, the placement of ads in the *Bay Guardian* and the magazine *Vector*, published by the Society for Individual Rights, gradually made the organization better known and attracted participants.

While G-40 Plus does not concentrate on particular problems, such as alcoholism, it does act as a referral agency, steering older gays to health care, psychother-

apy, and political action as requested. Also, they are collaborators in the GALAXY effort to provide housing for aging gay men and lesbians.

The organization is relatively loose and informal. Lee is the coordinator-chairperson, with a nine member steering committee to assist him. There are no elections; all positions are volunteer. There are no dues; all contributions are voluntary also.

For some years, G-40 Plus has been an official part of the First Unitarian Church, but the group itself is non-religious. There are two great advantages to this relationship: housing and independence.



Jordan Lee (Photo: Rink)

Lee and Pierce cited similar groups in the U.S., most notably Senior Action in a Gay Environment (SAGE) in New York, GLOE here in San Francisco, and the Rainbow Coalition in Los Angeles (not to be confused with the political organization founded by Jesse Jackson). Lee pointed out that as the total population ages and gay awareness increases, there will be more such groups, with larger memberships.

Public recognition is growing too, with participants appearing in the GLOE cable car chanting such catchy bits as "Two, four, six, eight—How do you know your grandma's straight?"

Within the gay community G-40 Plus is also gaining positive recognition, as collaborators with the Godfather service group and contributors to the AIDS Food Bank.

"It will exist 'til Hell freezes over," Lee replied to the question of the group's future.

And the last word was Pierce's, "It is wonderfully enriching."

G-40 Plus meets two Sundays a month at the First Unitarian Church, Geary at Franklin. Information can be secured by calling 552-1997.



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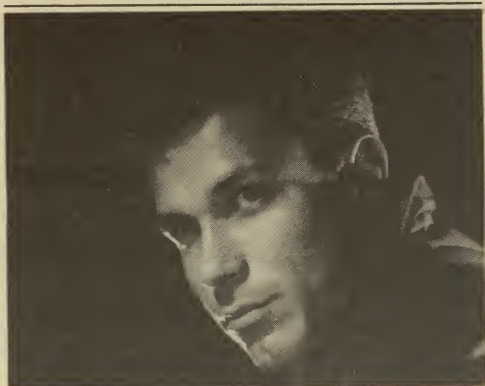
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FRIDAY 27

• **A Little Glitter and Lots of Guts:** the Eighth Annual Gay Musical Celebration, First Congregational Church, Post and Mason Sts., S.F., 8 PM, \$7-\$13. The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus is joined by the San Francisco Lesbian Chorus, Barbary Coast Cloggers, Men About Town, San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band, and soloists from the Society of Lesbian and Gay Composers.

• **Unfinished Business: The New AIDS Show:** stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$9 with \$1 discount with donation of canned good or toiletry item for the Food Bank.

• **S.F. International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival:** *Barbara Hammer Recent Works*, Roxie Cinema, 3117 16th St., S.F., 6 PM, \$5; *Hidden Pleasures*, Roxie Cinema, 8 PM, \$5; and *Wiener Brut*, Roxie, 10 PM, \$5.

• **Video Festival:** in conjunction with the S.F. International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, *Coming of Age*, Video Free America, 442 Shotwell, S.F., 7 PM, \$5; and *Inevitable Love*, Video Free America, 9 PM, \$5.

• **Mr. Drummer '86 Finals:** leather's biggest night, Trocadero Transfer, 520 4th St., S.F., 9 PM, \$15, plus the first Drummerboy contest. Tickets at Mr. S Leathers, All American Boy, Headlines, and Ambush Leather.

• **Femprov:** comedy, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 PM, free.

• **Becky Reardon and Judy Munsen:** music, Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia, S.F., 7 and 9 PM.

• **Gay Artists and Writers Collective:** poetry reading, The Parsonage, 555-A Castro St., S.F., 9 PM. Featuring Lloyd Stensrud, Don Chan Mark, and John Powers.

• **An Evening of Pride:** gay pride celebration, 'N Touch, 1548 Polk St., S.F., 11 PM. Featuring Leola Jiles and Camille Duncan.

• **Black and White Men Together:** party honoring Dr. John Bush, National Co-Chair of BWMT, 8 PM, 824 Fell St., S.F., BYO. Call 821-6296 or 621-0558 for more information.

• **Jack-O-Rama:** jack-off celebration sponsored by J.O. Buddies, 260 Shotwell, S.F., doors open 9:30-11:30 PM, \$10 includes beverage, clothes check, and supplies. Call 931-0838 for more information.

• **Fraternal Order of Gays:** card fest, 304 Gold Mine Dr., S.F., 8 PM. Call 641-0999 for more information.

• **S.F. Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade:** last safety monitor training, Women's Building, 3543 18th St., S.F., registration begins 6:30 PM, training 7-10 PM. Call 861-5404 for more information.

• **Jackie Taylor:** music, Sutter's Mill Cellar Supper Club and Cabaret, 77 Battery St., S.F., beginning at 8 PM. For cocktail or dinner reservations call 788-8377.

• **The Children's Hour:** stage presentation, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$9-12. Lillian Hellman's landmark drama set at a girl's school in the 1930's. It is a suspenseful tale of two women caught in the panic and destruction of homophobia. Call 861-5079 for details.

• **The Happy Hour Celebrity Backyard Barbecue and Pool Party:** stage presentation, Club 181, 181 Eddy St., S.F., 10 PM. Doris Fish and Phillip R. Ford in an all new summertime revue. "Guests" include Ginger Quest, Sandal, Laz Taylor, Tippi, Phil Mangano, Cher, Tommy Pace, Imelda Marcos, Janice Sukaitis, Mrs. Miller, Miss X, Timmy Spence, Pierre (Mr. Lucky) Merkle, and the amazing 17-year old Leslie Gore. Call 626-9548 or 621-3748 for details.

• **Diablo Valley Metropolitan Community Church:** spiritual renewal service, 2247 Concord Blvd., Concord, 7:30 PM. With Rev. Betty Pederson. Call 827-2960 for details.

• **Women's Drop-in Space:** conversation and caring, 1615 Polk St., upstairs, S.F., 7-9 PM, every Friday.

SATURDAY 28

• **4th Annual Gay Comedy Extravaganza:** one show only with Tom Ammann, Suzy Berger, Laurie Bushman, Marga Gomez, Doug Holsclaw, Kelly Kittel, Linda Moakes, Mario Mondelli, Monica Palacios, Romanovsky and Phillips, Karen Ripley, and Danny Williams, Castro Theater, 429 Castro St., S.F., midnight, \$6. Call 861-5404 for more information.

• **Puttin' On the Ritz:** dance party sponsored by Bay Area Career Women, Gift Center Pavilion, 888 Brannan St., S.F., 8:30 PM to 2 AM, \$22 in advance, \$28 at the door (limited). For women only, no-host cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, formal attire optional. Tickets available at all Bass ticket centers. Call 495-5393 for more information.

• **S.F. International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival:** *No Sad Songs*, Roxie Cinema, 3117 16th St., S.F., noon, \$3; *Ten Years of Shorts*, Roxie Cinema, 1:30 PM, \$3; *Working Class Chronicle*, Roxie, 4 PM, \$3, with *Cerebral Accident*; *Mara*, 6 PM, \$5; *A Limitless Place*, 8 PM, \$5; and *We Were One Man*, 10 PM, \$5.

• **Video Festival:** in conjunction with the S.F. International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, *Wild Life*, Video Free America, 442 Shotwell, S.F., noon, free; *PSA*, Video Free America, 12:45 PM, free, with *Parents Come Out*, *Orien-*

tations, and *Neighborhood Voices*; *ARC/AIDS Vigil*, 2:45 PM, free, with *Bill Pope: Portrait of a Native Son*, *On the Safe Side*, *Hero of My Own Life*, and *Grey Hideaway*; *The Awakening of Nancy Kaye*, 4:45 PM; *The Absence of Us*, 5:35 PM, with *Assembly at Dyke High* and *Where There's Smoke*; *Love on the Line*, 6:45 PM, with *The Right Stuff*; *Men Behind Bars*, 8 PM; and *Chance of a Lifetime*, 10 PM, with *Chinese Characters*, and *Castro—The Video*.

• **Unfinished Business: The New AIDS Show:** stage performance (see Friday for details).

• **A Little Glitter and Lots of Guts:** the Eighth Annual Gay Musical Celebration, First Congregational Church, Post and Mason Sts., S.F., 8 PM, \$7-13. The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus is joined by the Liederman Gay Men's Chorus of San Jose, Foggy City Dancers, Men About Town, City Swing, and the Vocal Minority.

• **Us Girls:** dance party for women and their friends, 16th Note, 3116 16th St., S.F., 9 PM to 2 AM, \$4. Funk, Reggae, Salsa, Calypso, and political rap.

• **Trocadero Transfer:** pre-parade Rollout Dance, 520 4th St., S.F., 10 PM to 7 AM, \$7.

• **The Normal Heart:** stage performance, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison St., Berkeley, 2 PM. A special benefit performance for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and the Pacific Center AIDS Project, \$25 donation tax deductible.

• **San Francisco Track and Field Club:** track festival, McAtter High School, Portola and O'Shaughnessy, S.F., 10 AM. Entry fee \$6, medals awarded to first three places in all events. Entertainment by the Hayward Raw-Rahs, \$2 admission. Call 558-8282 for more information.

• **National Gay and Lesbian Task Force:** party to honor Virginia Apuzzo, Jean O'Leary, and Bruce R. Voeller, Alamo Square Inn, 719 Scott St., S.F., 6-8 PM. Sponsored by the ten past and present Bay Area members of the Task Force board, the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, the Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, the Stonewall Gay Democratic Club, and Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights. Special guests will include Harry Britt, Mary Morgan, Armistead Maupin, Niles Merton, Danny Williams, and Jeff Levi.

• **Pre-Parade Slumber Party:** sponsored by the Balloon Girls, Alamo Square Saloon, 600 Fillmore St., S.F., 5 PM until, \$1.98.

• **Over Our Heads:** comedy, Hotel Utah, 500 4th St., S.F., 9 PM, \$2. Call 421-8308 or 777-3411 for reservations.

• **Different Spokes:** Half Moon Bay/Skyline Drive ride, meet at the Post Office in Half Moon Bay at 10:30 AM, moderate pace, 45 miles. Call 931-9587 for more information.

• **East Bay FrontRunners:** run at UC campus, meet at University and Oxford Sts., Berkeley, at 9:30 AM, two-mile loop. Call 526-3506 or 261-3246 for more information.

• **San Francisco FrontRunners:** Golden Gate Bridge run, begins at 10 AM at the unpaved parking lot east of the toll plaza, one to 3 1/2 miles flat.

• **Girth and Mirth Club:** gay pride party, call 680-7612 for location.

• **Jackie Taylor:** music (see Friday for details).

• **HTLV-3 Antibody Testing Support and Education:** workshop, Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 10 AM to 1 PM. Call 548-8283 or 832-1254 for more information.

• **The Children's Hour:** stage presentation (See Friday for details).

• **The Happy Hour Celebrity Backyard Barbecue and Pool Party:** stage presentation (See Friday for details).

• **Writing Workshop:** for women 60 and older, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 12 noon. Sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders, call 626-7000 for more information.



The Fourth Annual Gay Comedy Extravaganza will be at the Castro June 28
(Photo: J. Altman)

SUNDAY 29

• **San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade and Celebration:** ok folks, this is what you've been waiting for. Be at the corner of Market and Front/Spear Sts. by 11 AM. The march will proceed down Market Street to Civic Center Plaza for the celebration, from noon to 6 PM. Have fun and be careful!

WEEK



The S.F. Gay Men's Chorus invites you to A Little Glitter and Lots of Guts June 27 and 28 at the First Congregational Church

- **Solid as a Rock 1986:** gay freedom day party, Gift-center Pavilion, 888 Brannan St., S.F., 4 PM to midnight, \$12 in advance, \$16 at the door. Sponsored by Dr. Sanford Kellman, Randall Schiller, Bradley Chester Wise, and the I-Beam family. With Sylvester.
- **Follow the Float:** gay pride tea dance, Trocadero Transfer, 520 4th St., S.F., 5 PM until, \$7.
- **Tom Ammann:** performs at gay day at the Eagle, 11th and Harrison, S.F., 5 PM.
- **The Children's Hour:** stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 3 and 8:30 PM, \$9-\$12 (see Friday for details).
- **S.F. International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival:** *Born in Flames*, Roxie Cinema, 3117 16th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5.
- **Stephen Herring Quintet:** music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 4-8 PM. Rebirth of Tropical Nights.
- **Sharon Russell Band:** music, A Little More Club, 702 15th St., S.F., 6-9 PM. Plus buffet for hungry women.
- **Clean and Sober:** dance, Central YMCA, 220 Golden Gate, S.F., 4-8 PM, \$6-\$10 donation.
- **Alexander Hamilton Post 448 of the American Legion:** open house, Green Room, Veterans Building, 401 Van Ness Ave., S.F., 1-4 PM, free. No-host bar.
- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** pre-parade run, begins at 10 AM at the Castro Theater, 429 Castro St., S.F., finishes at the Embarcadero.
- **Third Annual Parade Eucharist:** gathering at the parade formation site, 10 AM. Homily by Rev. Jerry Brown, with Rev. Sue Bergmans and Rev. Bernie Mayes.

MONDAY 30

- **Robert Gluck, Martha Courtot, Tede Matthews, and Judi Friedman:** poetry reading, Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St., S.F., 7:30 PM, \$3-\$5 sliding scale.
- **AIDS Healing Service:** with speaker Louis Nassaney, Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 6:30 PM.
- **Slightly Older Lesbians:** meeting, Billy De Frank Lesbian/Gay Community Center of Santa Clara County, 86 Keyes St., San Jose, 7-9 PM. Call (408) 265-0416 for details.
- **Pacific Center AIDS Project:** support group for health care workers in the AIDS epidemic, Lakeshore Ave. Baptist Church, 3534 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland, 6-8 PM. Meets every Monday.

TUESDAY 1

- **Gay Cable Network:** Cable 6, 9 PM. Pride and Progress features gay news, views, and sports, plus an interview with Bill May, founder of SIR; The Right Stuff features hostess Monica Palacios with special coverage of the Fish/Ford mudsling and fish fry.
- **Hunter Davis:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7-9 PM, free.
- **Reclaiming Sexual Spirit:** an evening devoted to putting the fun back into sex. All-American Meeting Hall, 2269 Market St. (at Noe), S.F., 7:30-10:30 PM, \$10. Call 861-0306 for details.

- **Pacific Center AIDS Project:** *People with AIDS/ARC Support Group and Lovers, Friends and Family of People with AIDS/ARC*, 6-8 PM. Call 420-8181 for details.
- **Meditation and Healing Circle:** meeting, Haight-Ashbury Community Center, Park Branch Library, 1833 Page St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 864-5483 for details.
- **Gay International Folk Dancing:** for lesbians and gay men, Eureka Valley Recreation Center, Collingwood Park, S.F., teaching 7:30-8 PM, request dancing 8-9:30 PM, \$2.50. Call 585-9784 or 552-8413 for details.
- **San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band:** practice, every Tuesday, Pacific Ballet Center, 11th St. and Mission, S.F. Interested? Call the Bandfone, 621-5619.
- **Gay-Nite:** Rollergarden, 15721 East 14th St., San Leandro, 7:30 PM-Midnight.
- **The Temescal Gay Men's Chorus:** rehearsal, Trinity Hall, 2320 Dana (at Durant), Berkeley, 7 PM. For details, call 465-7388 or 655-3825.

WEDNESDAY 2

- **HTLV-3 Antibody Testing Support and Education:** workshop (see Saturday for details).
- **Sandy Geller:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7-9 PM, free.
- **San Francisco Hiking Club:** general club meeting, Eureka Valley Recreation Center, Collingwood and 19th Sts., S.F., 7:30 PM.
- **Diablo Valley Metropolitan Community Church:** bible study, 2247 Concord Blvd., Concord, 7 PM. Call 827-2960 for more information.
- **The Children's Hour:** stage presentation (See Friday for details).
- **Building Intimate Relationships:** ongoing group for one or both partners of a male couple, 8 to 10 PM. Call Gordon Murray, MFCC, at 821-1718, or Scott Eaton, MA, 861-0306 for more information.
- **Pacific Center AIDS Project:** *People with AIDS/ARC Support Group*, Fairmont Hospital, San Leandro, 3-5 PM. Call 420-8181 for details.
- **Diablo Valley MCC:** Bible Study and Prayer & Praise Worship, 2247 Concord Blvd., Concord. Bible Study at 7 PM, Prayer & Praise Worship at 8:15 PM. Call 827-2960 for details.
- **Beginning Yoga Classes:** 6:30-8 PM. Located near 16th and Valencia. Free for PWA. Call 864-1141 for details.
- **Western Star Dancers:** square dance for experienced mainstream level dancers, Central YMCA, 220 Golden Gate Ave., 2nd floor theater. Both males and females welcome. Every Wednesday. Call 621-5631 or 621-3990 for details.
- **Men's Wart Clinic:** removal of penile and external and internal anal venereal warts, Oakland Feminist Women's Health Center, Oakland, sliding scale. Staff physician is Dr. Fred Strauss of the Gay Men's Health Collective. Call 444-5676 for more information.
- **S.F. Lesbian/Gay Chorus:** "Together In Harmony" rehearsals at All-Saints Episcopal Church, 1350 Waller St. (near Masonic), 7:30-10 PM. Call 334-6542 for details.
- **Fruit Punch:** gay radio, KPFA, 94.1 FM, 10 PM.

THURSDAY 3

- **Living Sober Conference:** opens at noon, Civic Center auditorium. Special AA meeting at 8 PM.
- **Feathers 'n' Flesh:** N'Touch, 1528 Polk St., S.F., 10:30 PM, \$1. Male Strippers, comics, and female impersonators.
- **Older Gay Men's Rap Group:** 60+, Friendship Room, 711 Eddy St., S.F., 2:45 PM. Led by George Birmisa. Call 626-7000 for more information. Sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders.
- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** one to five mile fun run, begins at 6 PM at McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park, S.F.
- **The Children's Hour:** stage performance (see Friday for details).
- **Making Friends With Anger:** ongoing class for men and women who want to feel more comfortable with anger, led by Scott Eaton, MA. Call 861-0306 for more information.
- **Bonnie Hayes:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 PM, free.
- **Men's Support Group:** meeting, Billy De Frank Lesbian & Gay Community Center, 86 Keyes St., San Jose, 7 PM.

The Bay Area Reporter welcomes organizations, businesses, and individuals to submit items for its weekly calendar. Placement in the calendar is free and the sole responsibility of the editors. Deadline: 5 PM on Thursdays. This Week compiled by Will Snyder.

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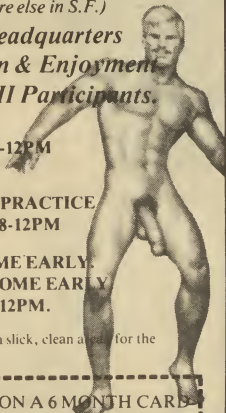
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Mr. Marcus

In Pride We Trust

Gay pride week kicked off in San Francisco last Sunday, June 22, at the SF-Eagle where for a mere \$6 a horde of supportives basked in the sun, slurped up almost 85 gallons of beer, tested and tasted the fried chicken and corn on the cob, and got their money's worth as Mario Mondelli wowed 'em with his distinctive satire about life in general and what it's like to grow up as a gay man in an Italian family; Sharon McNight highfooted it down from the RushRiv (where Tom Vetrano finally won a title as Mr. Russian River) and delivered a socko performance with a couple of standing ovations and 100% approval from the crowd in attendance (along with Rita Rockett) as the grand marshals of this year's Gay Pride Parade and Celebration. Several hundred dollars were raised for the cause.

In spite of everyone's uplifting attitude we are still haunted by the spectre of the LaRouche internment initiative. If you ever wanted to fight for a "cause" now's the time to don your armor and do battle on the political fields. Hundreds of thousands of signatures were counted last week, so it looks like we're headed for quarantine unless we all get out to beat the initiative which will be on the November ballot.

Thousands of tourists are pouring into the "City that Knows How" for this Sunday's biggest gay extravaganza. Wherever you're standing and watching or riding on a float, be



Intl. Mr. Leather Scott Tucker will make his San Francisco debut on the Powerhouse float in the Gay Parade
(Photo: Marcus)

proud—proud of the accomplishments of the past and other victories we have experienced.

There are so many activities associated with the parade, it is

impossible to list them all here. If you want to stick by the southern hearth after the Parade, the Cal Eagles M/C and the Constantines M/C are throwing a beer bust at the SF-Eagle as a benefit for the Coming Home Hospice for only \$6 and all the beer you can drink.

Sanford Kellman, Bradley Wise, and other friends are throwing a team dance at the Giftcenter Pavilion, and the Troc will rock out with the traditional cha-cha-nigans.

Friday, the Mr. Drummer contestants will vie for the title at Trocadero, and a myriad of activities are ready and waiting for your esoteric tastes. Theatre Rhino glides into an ecstatic production of *The Children's Hour*; the SF Gay/Lesbian Intl. Film Festival is still running at the Roxie and Castro Theaters; the big comedy night at the Castro Theatre with Tom Ammiano, Danny Williams, Monica Palacios, Marga Gomez, Suzy Berger, and Romanovsky & Phillips is at midnight Saturday (only \$6 at the door); and so many other activities it makes your head spin. Even the J/O buddies are getting in the act with a party at 260 Shotwell Friday, June 27 (call 931-0838 for details).

Tomorrow night (Thurs., June 26), keep Jim Cvitanich and Mark Abramson from going to jail by joining the fundraising activities at the Pilsner Inn; they'll be showing video excerpts from the last three Men Behind Bars
(Continued on page 84)



Marcus says there're hot men on the Eagle patio every Sunday.
(Photo: Marcus)



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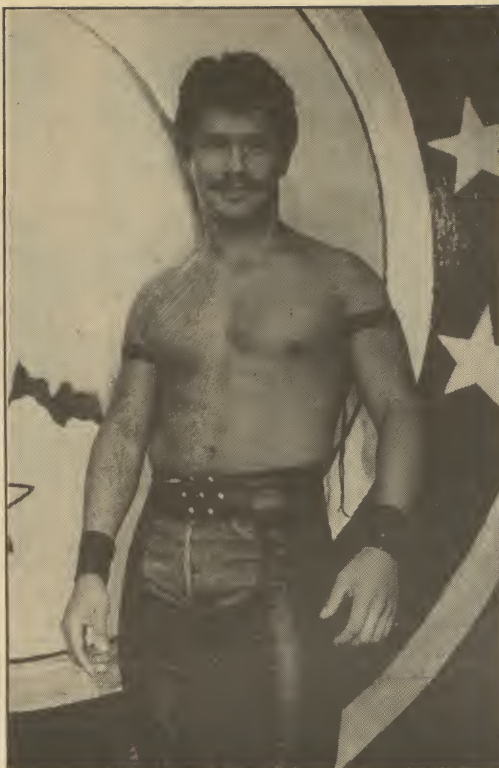
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The Great Michael Chase, Mr. August on the Eagle Bar Chest calendar
(Photo: R. Pruzan)

Marcus

(Continued from page 82)

shows, and auction off all the paraphernalia used in those productions. Sorry I told you it was last Thursday, but I was sober as a stone and that's how things happen.

Saturday afternoon, the Warlocks M/C is having a poker run departing from the Double D Saloon at Noon and a beerbust at the SF-Eagle afterward for only \$6. The big showing of natural gemstone jewelry continues at the Obelisk through the 29th, and if you can decipher their explanatory letter you're doing better than me! The art show on the walls at the SF-Eagle is by Hot Man Scott and it's a veritable paean to buns, but then if you knew Scott you'd understand.

The Gay/Lesbian Day committee eschews all the old prohibitions on esoteric marchers and this year the 15 Association and the Janus Society along with another group will march together for the first time, asserting their S&M existence in our society.

Meet the Mr. Drummer contestants at the Powerhouse Thursday, June 26, at 2100 hours, and on Saturday night, meet Scott Tucker, Intl. Mr. Leather, and Peter Gallo, the 1st runner-up; both have been on a whirlwind tour and they were in the Los Angeles parade last Sunday.

It's a busy week and a week to assert your support for causes we all must meet head-on as challenges are hurled our way with increasing frequency. But march or observe proudly. This is your week to shine and shine you will!

★ ★ ★

Last Thursday, the on-going SF-Eagle calendar continued with the new Mr. August 1987 being Michael Chase—certainly a deserving winner. The Watering Hole (sans a disc jockey) opened their Feed Bag food concession last week, adding yet another eating place right near Rings and the Double D. Ken Lackey continues to reap the rewards of his expertise as a waiter, and the Double D is happy to have him aboard, and that

the waters of his beloved San Francisco Bay, and another chapter closed, bringing you all up-to-date on the status of the way we were and will continue to be as we brave the stormy waters that confront us.

Did you catch Rita Rocket Tuesday night on Mike Hegedus' poignant and factual reporting on that great lady in our midst? I applaud KRON and KPIX for the awareness of their television constituency. Life goes on despite our sad encounters and we're better, stronger, and more compassionate than anyone ever imagined. As I said before, don't give up hope and be proud of your part, no matter how small, in this day and age of unexpected and traumatic affairs!

★ ★ ★

As far as dish goes, there's not too much to say. We're losing Will Tucker to San Diego (his choice) and Michael (Martha) Mitchell dropped in with his ever-loving John enroute to Yosemite (confirmed reservations, yet) from Detroit; George Burgess let the community in on his happiness with this postcard-hot man Frank from Sydney who even had Saucy Aussie Kym Whittington in a tizzy. If you think Paul Hogan is hot, check this "C'day Dude" out!

The Intl. Mr. Leather winners will be here to add some titillation to our parade (lots of leather and biker men this year) and Vern Stewart has the corner on their appearance with an invitation-only soiree at the Powerhouse after their hectic whirlwind tour of Los Angeles and its great parade last weekend.

Down San Jose way, their Gay Pride celebration was enhanced by marching band dudes in attendance and good vibes all around.

★ ★ ★

You don't need heaviness hanging around you this week; join Rita Rocket and Mark "Bubbles" Abramson tonight at the Special and Castro Station as they celebrate their birthdays across the street from each other. "Beware of Drunks" crossing signs will be posted as their fans parade back and forth. It should be a hoot.

Have a good time, be careful and cautious on the streets. Keep your legs crossed and remember: The wise man does at once what the fool does, finally! Glory in your pride—it's yours for the taking.

But over the weekend it was quite sad to pass 11th & Folsom and not see that bright red Febe's sign aglow. But it's not the end of any era. Leather, the lifestyle, and the bars will exist no matter what, and I'll bet you all agree!

Ron Duncan breezed into town over the weekend and in quiet moments shared by close friends and loving dudes, the ashes of Robert Urvary were spread over



Ron Casp worked Bruce over at the Mr. Northern California Drummer contest
(Photo: Rink)

Celebrate Your Pride

Gay Pride weekend is once again upon us and as we attend the various festivities associated with this weekend, let us all pause—take a deep breath, lift your head erect, throw your shoulders back—and say “I am so proud for being gay.” We should put all negative thoughts and feelings behind us (or in the closet for the time being) and smile at everyone we happen to pass. Political, social, ethnic, and sexual biases should be replaced with a strong need to meld as one in the common bond of solidarity.

In essence, this week, day, or hour, we are a community of men and women celebrating our lives and the lives of those who championed our cause for Gay Liberation! Stonewall was not the beginning but the apex of years of unrelenting struggle for our freedom. The struggle continues, and it must, if we are ever to be really free.

So during your rounds of attending concerts, parties, dances, the parade and celebration, take a moment to reaffirm your commitment to gaining “true freedom” in every sense of the word. Please, enjoy yourself and raise your spirits with the knowledge that you are celebrating your life as a gay man or lesbian and We Will Survive!

WHERE EAGLES DARE

The California Eagles Motorcycle Club had a very successful four-day motorcycle tour through the Gold Rush country during the weekend of June 5 through 8. The tour took the club through Yosemite, the American River, and Alleghany. The individuals who attended had a great time, and I'm sure are looking forward to next year's tour.

As on any motorcycle run or tour, there were awards given for various achievements during the run/tour. Doug Holmes received the award for motorcycle touring, based upon the rider who best fitted his motorcycle and belongings for the tour. Dan Jeansonne of the Constantines claimed top honors for his efficiency in riding and camping. The entertainment award went to Jim Cahill of the California Eagles for his piano bar at the Kenton Mine Lodge. Wil Rutland of the CMC won his award for the most original performance in male attire and on a motorcycle. The award for the best test scores based on knowledge of the Gold Country was shared by Greg Sedwick and Ed Ludeman. The “night maneuvers” exercise at Finnon Lake for superb display of commando abilities produced two award winners. Ed LaVoie placed second, with Gary Kenyon of the Constantines coming out on top as the commando you would want on your side.

Congratulations to the winners and to the California Eagles on the success of your first major event. Just by reading the guidebook each participant received, a lot of thought and careful planning went into this event.

Sunday, June 29, the California Eagles and the Constantines will host a joint beer bust at the S.F. Eagle patio after the Gay Freedom Day Parade. The event starts at 3 p.m. and the usual fare and fol de rol will prevail amongst a sea of glistening male torsos. Proceeds from this event will go

to the Coming Home Hospice. Hope to see you there!

RAISING THOSE BUCKS

The staff of the Men's Room is happy to report that more than \$2,000 was raised Saturday afternoon, June 14, at the A Day for Parkay fundraiser. The bar was packed all afternoon long as friends and customers of the Men's Room streamed in and out to contribute to this worthy cause for Parkay, former Miss Gay San Francisco. The fundraiser was to help defray medical expenses from a recent illness. Congratulations to the staff and management of the Men's Room, and from all indications Parkay is doing fine. A hearty thank you to all who participated and helped make this effort a huge success.

Sunday, June 15, Tony Trevizo, Grand Duke of San Francisco, along with Grand Duchess Deena Jones, members of both their court and the Grand Ducal Council, hosted the Third Annual Father's Day Auction for the God-

father Service Fund at the S.F. Eagle. Comedian Danny Williams, Mark Friese, Dianne Gregory of B.A.R., Tom Roller, Steve Raffer, Executive Director of GGBA, and myself shared in auctioning off items during the afternoon.

Also, a 50/50 raffle was held, with the proceeds to help rent a motorized cable car for the people with AIDS who wanted to be in this weekend's parade but who are unable to march. When the winning number was drawn, the winner and his lover donated their half of the receipts back, which thus enabled the complete cost of the cable car to be paid.

Well over \$3,000 was raised for the Godfather Service Fund, which provides personal care packets to AIDS patients at Wards 5 A & B and Garden Sullivan Hospital. The packets include a bathrobe, slippers, toiletries, and a teddy bear.

Tony would like to thank all of the volunteers and individuals who participated in this event for



Larrise (l.) is trying to help his friend Parkay (r.), who is ill (Photo: Rink)

their help and support of the Godfather Service Fund and making this event a great success again! A special thank you to the two gentlemen who donated their 50/50 raffle winnings back to

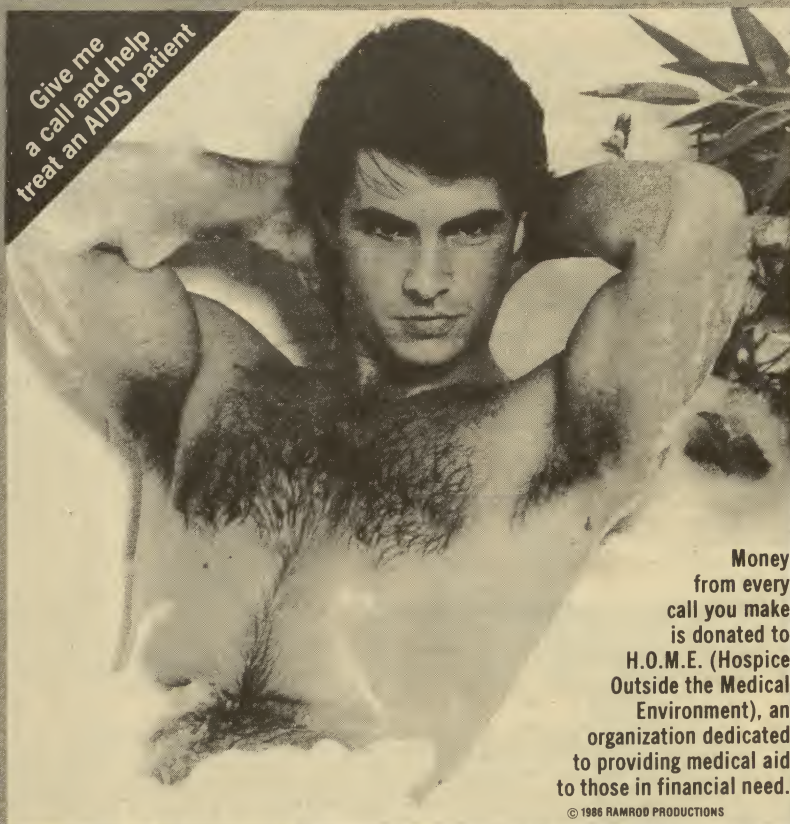
help pay the rental of the cable car; the people with AIDS who will be riding it send their love!

UP & COMING

Men Behind Bars will hold a (Continued on next page)

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Remy

(Continued from previous page)

Reunion Party & Auction Thursday, June 26, at the Pilsner Inn (225 Church St. at Market) starting at 8 p.m. They will have video highlights of all three of the Men Behind Bars productions and an auction of costumes, wigs, props, and other assorted donated items. Subtitled "Keep Men Behind Bars from Going Behind Bars," come on out and kick off Gay Pride weekend with the casts, crews, and craziness of three years of Men Behind Bars! The WAC uniform I used to wear in the picture in this column will be going on the auction block, so bring your checkbook and check it out! See ya there!

The Warlocks M/C will host their Poker Run Saturday, June 28. Check-in is at noon at the Double D Saloon on Folsom Street. The event is open to both motorcyclists and individuals riding in cars. Starting point is the Double D and at each check-point you will be given directions to the next stop. The event ends up at the S.F. Eagle patio for a beer bust and lunch. The cost of \$6 covers entry fee, beer bust, and lunch. Also, club members are selling 50/50 raffle tickets for a buck apiece. The event will be lots of fun; bring your out-of-town friends and try your luck. There will be cash prizes to the winners of the poker run, so come on out and join the fun!

The Barbary Coasters M/C will host their 21st annual run Class of '66 during the weekend of July 25 through 27. Cost is \$66 if postmarked by July 15, \$76 if postmarked by July 21, or \$86 if hand delivered after July 21, but prior to the run date. Applications will not be accepted at the run site. The cost includes all meals, 24-hour bar, field events (bike, buddy, and people), campsite and costume contest, guest night show, Jock Strap King and Bobby Socks Queen of the Prom, and the club show. The run is limited to 200 guests, so get your applications now. They are available at selected bars throughout the city.

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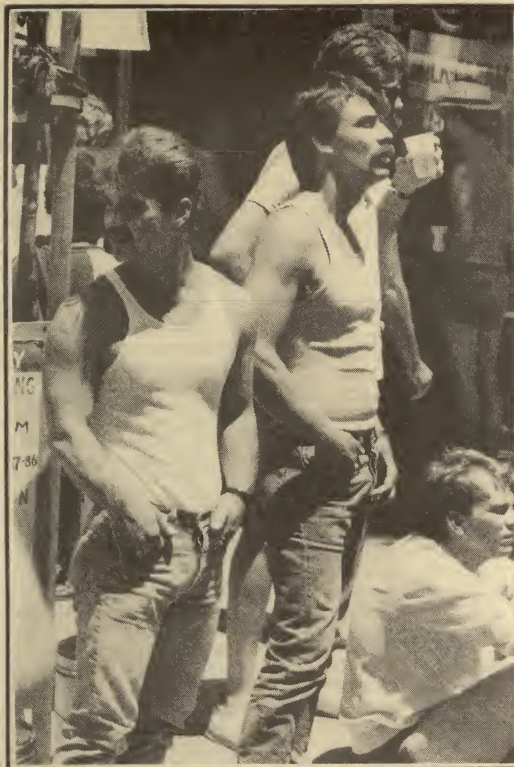
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It was a hot day at the 9th annual Haight Street Fair
(Photo: R. Pruzan)

DO DA DE

Birthday wishes to Gig Porter, Stephen Wick, and David Anderson, all June babes, and may you all have many more. And I thought May was a mad birthday month. Our folks were real busy during those mid-summer nights!

In case you're wondering what drugs I might have been on when I wrote my last column, no drugs influenced my writing. However,

the characters referred to, who belong to the Culpeppers and Pruitts, are actually real people who have real names. It's a group of people I know very well, and we have created these unique individuals. It's all meant to be fun and camp and don't be surprised if Vionna Mae or Virgil pop up from time to time.

That's it for now. Enjoy your Gay Pride weekend and be proud of who you are and what you are. Aloha!

Forward Together—No Turning Back

★ Bazaar Calendar ★

THURSDAY 6/26

Men Behind Bars Reunion, Party and Auction, Pilsner Inn, 8 p.m., auction of costumes, wigs, props.

Gay Community Awards Nominee's Party, SF Eagle, 8 p.m., beerbust \$6.

Mr. Drummer Contest Kick-off, Powerhouse, 9 p.m.

FRIDAY 6/27

GD [Grand Ducal] Ballot Nite, Phone Booth, 7-9 p.m.

Int'l Mr. Leather Awards Welcome Party, Powerhouse, 9 p.m.

Mr. Drummer Contest '86, Troc, 9 p.m., \$15.

SATURDAY 6/28

Super 500 II, Cycle Runners M/C, 6/28-29, \$35, apply w/fee to Roland Chavin, 419 Eureka St., SF 94114.

George Armstrong Custer Day, Men's Room, 1-5 p.m.

Warlock M/C Beer Bust, SF Eagle, 3-6 p.m., \$6.

GD Ballot Night, Kimo's, 7-9 p.m.

Pre-Parade Party, Casa Loma, 9 p.m., hostesses: Balloon Girls.
4th Annual Gay Comedy Extravaganza, Castro Theater, midnight, \$6. 12 top cabaret stars.

SUNDAY 6/29

Gay & Lesbian Freedom Day Parade, Market St. to Civic Center, 11 a.m., rally to follow.

Benefit For Coming Home Hospice, SF Eagle, 3-6 p.m., \$6 beer bust. Entertainment by Danny Williams, Tatiana, Sam Brooks; benefactors Cal Eagles M/C and Constantines M/C.

Tea Dance, Casa Loma, 3-8 p.m.

Solid As A Rock, Giftcenter, 4 p.m.-midnight, \$12 adv., \$15 door, featuring Sylvester.

GD Ballot Nite, The Village, 5-7 p.m.

Cats Opening, package drawing, Galleon, 6 p.m.

TUESDAY 7/1

Grand Ducal Application Party, Deadline, Galleon, 9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 7/2

Powerhouse 1st Anniversary Week Kickoff, 9 p.m. (thru 7/6).

Announcement Party, The Stallion, 9 p.m., CD Candidates officially announced.

Compiled by Karl Stewart and Diedre

The Expo '86 Report

This little epigraph is being written in Portland after a long, long three-week vacation which included Vancouver's fabulous Expo '86 and a honeymoon (?) evening in Victoria. I had never ridden so many ferries in my life, thanks to Steve Lien.

My traveling companions to Vancouver, Steve Suss and Robert (Beulah) Huffman, must have known of every little hot dog and hamburger stand up the coast. I think we stopped in 40 in an eight-hour drive—hi Mrs. Beasley's. We finally arrives at the world-renowned Castle Pub to meet Kenny K.Y. and Roger, our host, who had a fantastic 18th floor apartment overlooking the bay, and then proceeded to have a few tiddles. You must remember to have bought your liquor at the border through customs—it is expensive to drink in Vancouver. And I do mean expensive—\$2.40 and up for draft beer, and \$2.65 and up for drinks, and that is less than an ounce.

However, Expo '86 is worth the entire trip. And yes, Jimmy Quinn, Mr. Kenny K.Y. will be happy to escort you and your cohorts around the Expo, and I can tell you that you have to get up early every day. 9 a.m. is departure time if you wish to see the things of interest without waiting in long lines.

The exhibits worth seeing are: General Motors' Spirit Lodge, which is a mystic hologram experience in which the speaker at the end disappears before your very eyes; and the Washington State pavilion, but you must remember the Expo is all about transportation and communication, so be prepared. The Expo has a thing about stamping passports at each exhibit. You buy a souvenir passport at the gift shops at the entrances and it is interesting to see the different stamps put into your book, and also a great reminder of where you have been. It is a large exhibit area and you can get tired easily, so wear comfortable shoes and definitely *no* heels, girls. (Get the message, Steve Lien?)

Bridal Party

Here come the brides, all dressed in white, and pretty as a picture. E.T.V.C., the friendly San Francisco transgender group (transvestite, drag queen, transsexual—straight, gay, bi) presents a Bridal Party and Reception Thursday evening, June 26 at 8 p.m. Come join us and be a member of the Bridal Party. Come dressed as a bride, bridesmaid, flowergirl, or even a groom.

A mock wedding ceremony where you can marry your male and female sides will be featured. A wedding cake, delightful mood music, and dancing will make this June bridal party a night to remember.

TTVC. socials are open to transvestites, transsexuals, significant others, and any person interested in the transgender community, be they gay, straight, or bi.

Party fees for this bridal gala is \$5 for members and \$8 for guests. For more information please call 647-7970 or write E.T.V.C. at P.O. Box 6486, San Francisco 94101. ●

All in all, if you are planning a vacation, do try the Expo '86, but I hope you have friends to stay with because rents, food, and drinks are high.

We did a one-day overnight trip to Victoria and the Butchart Gardens, which were very impressive. I was supposed to have High Tea there, but as usual the one and only had to have another ferry boat ride, so we did not make it in time but did have a sensational dinner in Victoria and a great time.

Thanks to Kenny K.Y. we got to see most of Vancouver's gay life. A great campy and well-decorated and great food restaurant called Doll and Penny's Cafe at 1167 Davis serves fabulous hamburgers. The Castle Pub at 750 Granville Street is the home of Kenny K.Y. and they have a stamp for your passport. Neighbors at 1337 Robson Street is the new home of Jim Brandt and his Murray (thanks for the drinks Jim?) And a nice hello to Tillie at the very popular Streets at the Dufferin Hotel at 700 Seymour Street. And of course there are the Gandy Dancer, Numbers Club, and the Shaggy Horse,

which are all popular late at night. The most popular bar we found day and night was the Castle Pub, so don't miss it.

My last weekend in Portland was quite uneventful—nothing but booze and more booze and some very interesting people I met who want to be remembered to many people in the city. I'll do that personally because I don't want to embarrass anyone who is currently married to others. Hi, Kempie Doll of Ginger's Too.

Yours truly and Steve Suss of the Ember-Avenue have a bet that whoever loses the most weight by Thanksgiving has to pay four airfares from Portland to San Francisco and back for the both of us and for Robert Huffman and Steve Lien, but Steve Suss has to lose 53, yes that is 53, pounds, while I have only to lose a mere 29 pounds—and I will do it. We go on the wagon on the first of July 'til Thanksgiving.

All I can say is that it is nice to be back home and back to work at the wonderful Googie's on Geary—and yes, Howard, I did miss you screaming at me to wait on customers. It's nice to see my wonderful roommate Craig Daley, the only one who keeps Sutter's Mill together.

A special thanks to all of the wonderful people at the Embers/Avenue in Portland for the great three weeks, and a special thanks to both Steves for the ride to the airport.

Your barbecue on Sunday, June and George Bunda, was just



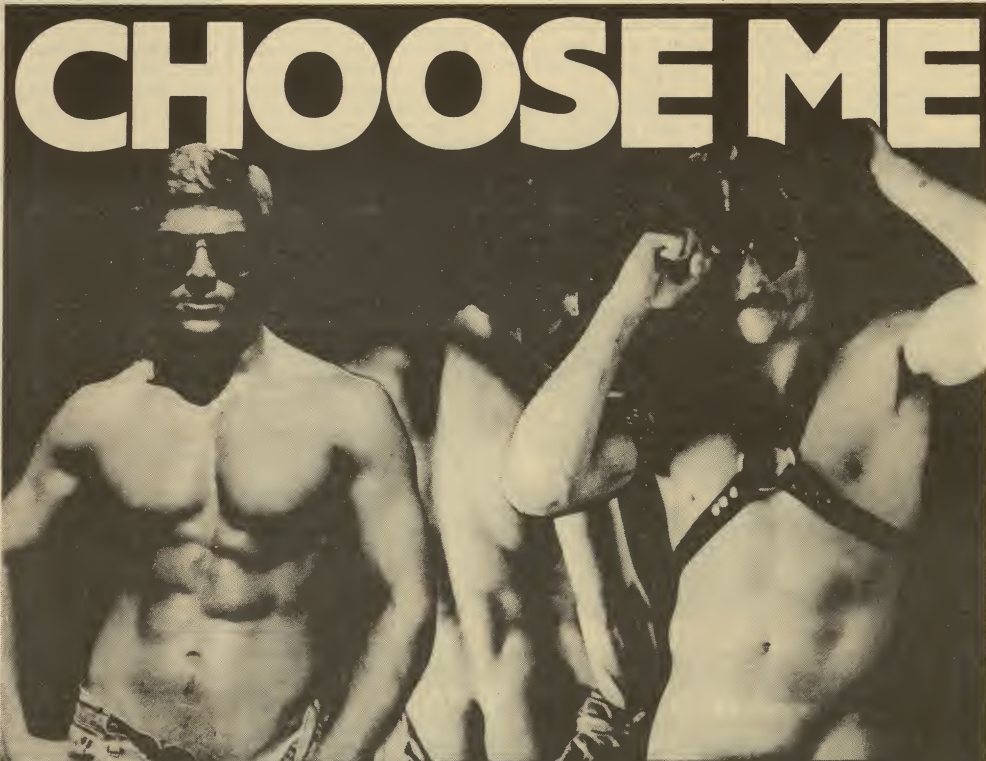
Hot Daddy—Sunday Eagle patron enjoys the entertainment. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

great, and it was so nice to be with such a large group of wonderful people.

After more than three years at Googie's I finally don't have to work any more nights—all days

with Wednesdays and Thursdays off.

Don't forget the Cable Car Awards performance of *Cats* coming up Saturday, the 11th of July—it should be a blast. ●



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A Place of Our Own

Women Are Coming to the Castro in Droves And Now There's Francine's to Cater to Us

by Dianne Gregory

Everybody's talking about it. You hear people remarking upon it all the time. "You know, there are a lot more women in the Castro than there used to be," they'll say with varying degrees of approval or horror, depending on who you're talking to. The woman haters, misogynists if you will—and who will deny that they are plentiful among us?—gnash their teeth and beat their breasts, while others may grin and bear it or even welcome us with open arms.

So we come to the Castro. We come to shop, to buy, to spend; to eat, to drink, to meet; to stroll, to see, to be seen. We come to play pool and to celebrate birthdays and anniversaries. We come to meet lovers and to speak of those loved and lost. But to the Castro we come, and in droves.

But where do we go when we get there? Most of the eating, drinking, and retail establishments are geared towards men. We simply make a little corner of them our own. You see us scattered among the patrons of the Elephant Walk, or slouching around the pool table at the Bear. We dine at Hot'n'Hunky along with the hunks and not-so-hunk, or you may see us hunkering down over our oysters at the Anchor. We try on the shirts and pants that usually don't quite fit us in the stores along the strip, and we rent videos and buy records just like the guys.

And then came Francine's. A guy named Frank or Ed or something like that—a "straight" transvestite (straight transvestite?)—took over a saloon that has had many incarnations since it was the Eureka Valley Bar. He also owns two Tenderloin drag bars—the 222 Club and the Black Rose—and now he's set his wife up as manager of Francine's on 18th Street. Which is fine with us.

You know, I love a good sleaze bar. I have been known to drive 50 miles in search of just the right combination of cheap liquor, stale cigarette-boozedisinfectant-excess body fluid aromas, and pool tables that have seen better days. I love it when your shoes sort of stick to the floor as you walk across a barroom. I always feel right at home. Other bars—even women's bars—in San Francisco certainly meet this description, but not in the Castro, not for women, not until Francine's.

I know Frank or Ed or whatever his name is doesn't intend Francine's to be a sleaze bar. You can tell by all the mauve paint on the walls and the new awning over the door. But the telltale signs are there. The unmistakable aroma is there, and so is the pool table. All it needs is a few years of continuous use and voila, you'll have a sleaze bar.

I have only been to Francine's twice, once before its original

opening and again recently. The first time I went there were about ten people in the place, myself and my companion, Frank/Ed, his wife, a few diehards from the Eureka Valley Bar days who patronize the place no matter what it's called or whom the clientele is, and a very sweet drunk from South Carolina who kept buying us drinks to prove to us that Southern Chivalry is not dead. It was an altogether pleasant interlude, and nobody wanted us to leave.

When I visited the bar recently the atmosphere was much more lively. At least 50 women and about a dozen men were gathered there, and the waiting list for the pool table filled the chalkboard. The jukebox was blaring, and there sat Frank/Ed at the bar overseeing it all. He was dressed in a tasteful black cocktail dress with red belt and heels, his hair in a French twist. One of my companions noted that he looked like the Wicked Witch of the West out for a drink. People we know stopped by at the



(Photo: Rink)

table to chat and before I knew it we had a party of about eight at our table. There's nothing like the dynamics of a good sleaze bar.

"Give me your tired, your

poor, your dykes yearning to breathe stale cigarette smoke" should be Francine's motto. I'm sure Frank/Ed will do a hell of a business with the Castro's first "women's" bar.



Women are coming to the Castro in droves

(Photo: Rink)

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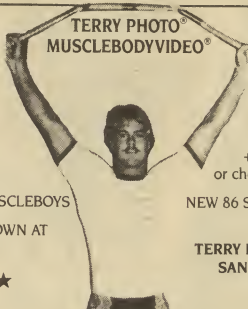
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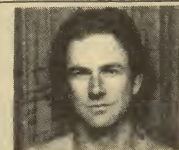
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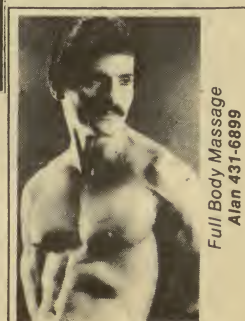
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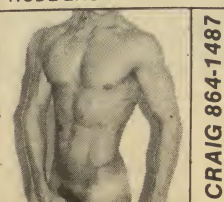
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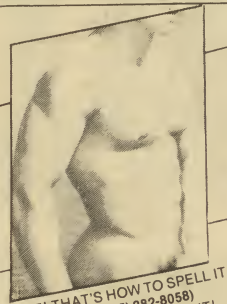
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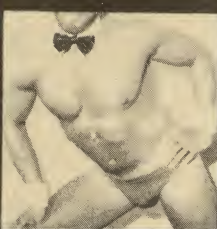
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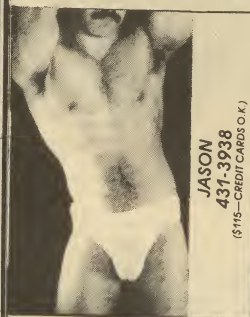
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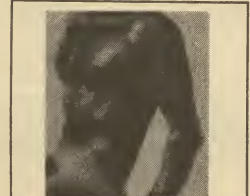
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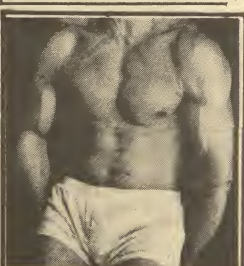
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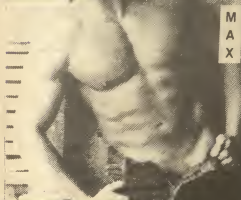
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For Pride's Sake

Gay Games II Triathlon Co-Chairs Run, Swim, and Bike for Pride

by Paul Trefzger

The triathlon is a sport that almost wasn't going to be a part of Gay Games II. It was the devotion and hard work of the co-chairs Roxanne Fiscella and Doug Vanden Bos that have made it a reality. It has meant personal sacrifice (as with most volunteers), such as not competing themselves, but there is a resultant satisfaction in the knowledge that the event will be available for others. I asked them to talk about the triathlon.

ROXANNE FISCELLA

"It's a sport that has three aspects," Fiscella said, "swimming, bicycling, and a run—consecutively. It's a timed event, so you could call it a race." I asked how she became interested in the concept.

"I started with running. I hurt myself, so I started swimming. Incidentally, I did no sports until two years ago. I never considered myself athletic. Well, I swam with a friend at Garfield and got hooked on exercise. When I saw the first triathlon advertised—the first I'd seen—I thought it'd be thrilling.

"I spent my life studying,"

Fiscella continued. "I was always chubby. With the swimming I began to exercise and eat right and it turned my life around. My first triathlon, which was at City College, was a Tri-For-Fun, a short triathlon to see how you could do. As it turned out, I had better times than my individual events, so I became more interested.

"It's a wonderful way to develop your whole body. Bike strengthens legs, swim, upper body, and running for endurance and excellent all-around conditioning. They supplement each other. It's a relatively injury-free sport because you rotate the individual sports while training. If your shoulder is sore from swim-



Roxanne Fiscella (l.) and Doug Vanden Bos, co-chairs of Gay Games II Triathlon (Photo: Rink)

ming, you could run and bike for three days." I asked about her own schedule.

"Six days a week," she said. "I love it. It's a stress reducer for me, relaxing and an emotional release. It's a way to meet healthy people. It improved my diet. I had no plan to change it, but because of training, I had to. I decreased my meat intake because I found that eating meat at night made me sluggish in the morning. I decreased dairy products and sugar and increased pasta, carbohydrates, and fruit. I don't care for vegetables that much.

"I practice each sport individually. I swim three days a week, with teams. I used to swim a mile. A coach pushes. He has me doing isolated workouts." She added, "That's at Mill's College. I bicycle twice a week, about 25 miles each time, around San Francisco, Golden Gate Park, Lake Merritt, and sometimes to Marin. In that, I'm not really competitive. I'd like to improve my time, but I do it to relax.

"I run once or twice a week, three to seven miles. I try to do one or two 10K's a month. Now that's my training schedule. Everybody can individualize their own. That's why I like the sport."

When I asked Fiscella about the number of entrants in the Triathlon for the Games, she told me, "We expect 150. It's actually quite a big sport. The course should be spectacular. It'll be at Lake Anza at Tilden Park in Berkeley. The run will be along a grassy ridge—six scenic miles, lush foot trails—then there's 20 miles of bicycling through the park. The goal is participation and getting as many people as possible. We want to attract people by not making it a difficult sport." Then she added, "Of course the bicycling will be hilly."

Roxanne spent her youth in Middletown, NY on the Hudson River. Currently 34, she left there at 17 and has lived in Boston, Chicago, and Maine for either school or employment. She came to the Bay Area in 1980 because she liked it here. She had various

jobs before her private practice in 1981. I told her she sounded content.

"I am," she said. "I have my work, play, relationships, friends." Of her part in GGII, she added, "I heard that the triathlon might not happen because they couldn't get it off the ground, couldn't find co-chairs, and I really wanted to see it happen." She and Doug Vanden Bos came on the Games scene in early March. "Late," she said. "It's at a manageable stage but it's difficult. We're always looking for volunteers, especially people with organizational skills. Enthusiasm is nice and of course, love of the sport—the event or the individual sports.

"I probably won't enter the triathlon. I'll be race director. You have to have a person who knows every aspect of the race course to problem-solve the day of the event. I am entering the 100 mile bike ride (the 'century') and the 10K run." And even if she's not in the triathlon, "It'll be a thrill watching it be pulled off after planning it," she said.

DOUG VANDEN BOS

Vanden Bos told me enthusiastically, "I got involved about a year and a half ago. I'd done the individual sports; a marathon that was a 26-mile run, open ocean swimming in Hawaii. I lived there three years. It's ideal if you're into sports. I got into bicycling and swimming there." I asked Doug why he went there in the first place.

He shrugged and said, "It was somewhere I wanted to go. Travel is one of my interests, so I moved around a bit." It was there he became aware of the Iron Man Triathlon but, "It wasn't until fall of '84 while living in LA that I attended the National Triathlon Training Camp (NTTC). That's when I started to bring the individual sports together and to get the background to train for multi-sport competition. It's three days with some of the top triathletes, i.e. Dave Scott, Liz Applegate, George Yates. I came

to San Francisco in November of last year and saw the Gay Games sign. I'd heard about the first Games while I was in Honolulu and got real excited. My degree, my background, is in phys. ed. It was thrilling to talk to people afterward who'd participated." I asked about his current involvement with the Games.

"I started as a volunteer. The person who was in charge of the triathlon became too busy. It appeared as if there wouldn't be an event. I was reluctant to step in since I hadn't been here long enough to know the area, but I knew that I wanted there to be a triathlon. I took over the beginning of February and basically nothing had been done. Several weeks ago we got the go ahead from the East Bay Regional Park Area to use Lake Anza and the other park areas, including Inspirational Point for the run. This was after two months of research, procedures, etc. The swim portion is a complete half mile, then 20-mile bike and six-mile run. Right now, our priority is recruiting a qualified committee of ambitious, take-charge individuals to assist us, particularly people familiar with triathlon and the transition—or who are willing to learn. A woman phoned us who can't run on pavement, so she can't enter and she wants to help. I've decided that I'm going to be doing the race, and since Roxanne isn't—she'll be race director—I want to thank her. I'm very appreciative. We had both decided not to enter. Then she decided to enter two other events."

Vanden Bos was born Dec. 14, '55 in Valier, Montana. He has always been active, and involved in group sports since junior high school. In high school he played football and wrestled.

"I'd kept up running and when I entered Eastern Montana College in Billings, I did that."

Doug now lives by the Panhandle of Golden Gate Park in a five-room flat. He's been a self-employed caterer for three years. He does volunteer work for the Shanti project at least one night a week and does fitness consulting, not in a gym, which utilizes natural outdoor equipment, a variety of alternative exercises in a program designed to promote "lifetime fitness," including diet, nutrition, exercise, and stress management. I asked him the source of his clientele. "Word of mouth," he said, and reminded me that he holds a teaching degree in health and fitness.

"It was great," Vanden Bos continued, "when I first arrived here and had a lot of time and was able to just jump into the Games office. It was a good way to get introduced to the community. I've heard it said that it's unusual to come up north, considering my interest in sports. I had started working on my Masters in Exercise Physiology and a bike accident put me out of commission for a summer, but now not only am I looking forward to the Gay Games Triathlon, but also to just competing in various events throughout the summer."

Roxanne summed it up. "I think that the Games is a wonderful event for gays to participate in, to show strength and support, to work together to show athletic prowess, and just to eminate gay pride."

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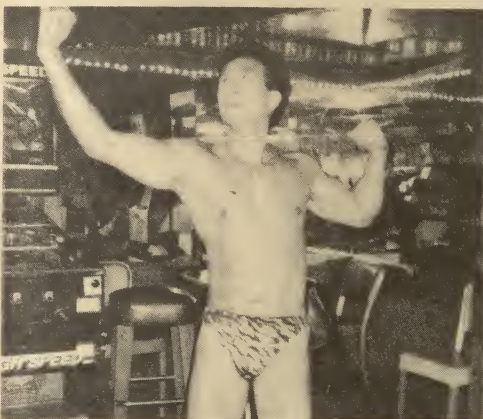
Will it Be in Vancouver? LA? Sydney? SF?

by Rick Thoman

Come to the Gay Games III in Vancouver in 1990! Or will it be Los Angeles? Or maybe Sydney, Australia? Although the start of the second Gay Games is still more than a month away, competition is underway to host the next Gay Games four years from now. And 1990 may be the year the Gay Games leaves San Francisco.

Vancouver is the only city that has submitted a bid to host the 1990 Games, but interest has also been expressed by Los Angeles and Sydney. According to Tom Waddell, chairman of the Gay Games III site selection committee, more cities may be interested in hosting the next Gay Games, but haven't yet made contact with the Gay Games organizers.

"It's not a high priority for us or many of the cities that will be participating in the Games here in August," said Waddell. "There is no set date when we will be announcing where the next Games will be staged. We encourage the interest of all cities and we will be looking at each bid carefully."



Phillip Tsui flexed for the crowd at a recent benefit for the Gay Games II Physique Team at the Village (Photo: Rink)

Following the successful conclusion of the first Gay Games in 1982, many cities fresh from the experience of the Games returned to their localities with hopes of bringing Gay Games II to their town. But the final decision by the Gay Games Board of Directors was to keep the Games in San Francisco for one more session in order to provide a firm foundation and tradition that will become the basis for future Games. Upon the successful conclusion of Gay Games II in August, the program and ideals should be firmly established, along with the logistics and special requirements necessary to put on the games, which help other cities that hope to host future Gay Games.

Vancouver has an inside track as a potential Gay Games host. The Canadian city has hosted its own gay athletic games each summer since the conclusion of the first Gay Games in 1982. The Vancouver gay business, athletic, and artistic community has formed the Metropolitan Vancouver Athletic and Arts Association (MVAAA) which put together what they hope is a winning bid for Gay Games III.

The MVAAA has been actively seeking the support of the entire Vancouver gay community, by soliciting volunteered time, tax-deductible donations, or letters of support, to show the Gay Games III Site Selection Committee that Vancouver is ready, willing, and quite anxious to be the first city outside of San Francisco to host a Gay Games. A spokesman for the MVAAA said, "The pride of hosting a world Gay Games in our community is worth the effort we're spending to try and bring it here. The excitement of the coming Gay Games II is certainly helping to



Joe Tolbe posed to music from *Mishima* at the Gay Games II Physique Team benefit at the Village (Photo: Rink)

capture the community's interest in hosting Gay Games III."

Of course, the Games won't necessarily be leaving San Francisco. Waddell emphasizes that the Site Selection committee must be satisfied on a number of points before letting it go beyond the city's borders.

"We'll be looking not only to see how each city is organizationally set up, but also if they have a non-profit status, what the role of women and minorities will have in their organization, and a number of other things," Waddell said. "Most importantly, we

must determine that any potential host will continue to carry on the philosophy of the Games, that it is open to all races, ages, and sexes, that it stresses participation over competition, that it reflects both the artistic as well as the athletic side of our community."

Waddell was adamant that the Games would not be released to a city that would allow it to become "just another athletic competition."

"That's something we want to avoid. That's not what the Games are all about," said Waddell. ●

Attention Park Bowl Sponsors

Park Bowl Management has given its assurance that within the next couple of weeks the superfluous game projection screens located above each lane will be removed. After this has been done, dozens of 4x4 foot spaces will be made available for free Park Bowl team sponsor poster/placard advertising. Several persons have already inquired about when and to whom the 4x4' p/ps should be turned in to. The p/ps should be sent ASAP to either Mal Garcia, Jerry DeYoung, Donn Strain, or given to the person behind the desk at Park Bowl, accompanied by the request to pass it on to one of the previously cited individuals. Two factors that should have some bearing upon when to turn in the p/ps is that the first ones received will be given priority in the event of a space scarcity, and that the advertising spaces are not limited to Tavern Guild sponsors.

The poster/placards should be composed of material that can be stapled or tacked to a wooden backing, and in good taste, of course. They will be temporarily stored in a safe place at Park Bowl until the space upon which to display them is prepared and available.

Also, with August just weeks away, some or all of the free advertising space indicated above will be utilized, for an as-yet unspecified time span, to highlight Gay Games II. However, before and after the GGII bowling event, the space will be used for Park Bowl team sponsor advertising. Therefore, it is advisable for those of you who wish to give your establishment/services a plug before August to turn in your p/ps moh scratch. ●

Track Festival

The San Francisco Track & Field Club will host the third annual San Francisco Track Festival this Saturday, June 28, at 10 a.m. at the McAteer High School track, located at the corner of Portola and O'Shaughnessy.

Meet Director Bernard Turner promises the Track Festival will be a showcase of the Gay Games II track team representing San Francisco, as well as including competitors from throughout the Bay Area. The meet is scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. with the running of the 5,000 meters, followed by a full schedule of sprints, hurdle races, relays, and field events. Anyone interested in participating in the meet that has not yet registered may call 558-8282, or register the day of the meet at the track prior to the start of competition. Entry fee is \$6, and all events will be contested in age groups, with medals awarded to the first three finishers.

An admission donation of \$2 is requested for spectators. Refreshments will be available and the Hayward Raw-Rahs will perform. Dr. Tom Waddell, Gay Games founder, will be the meet announcer, with sound by M&M Sound.

R. Thoman

GGII Tickets

Tickets are now on sale for the opening (Aug. 9) and closing (Aug. 17) ceremonies for Gay Games II. Prices are \$20 for one of the ceremonies and \$30 for both.

You can call the ticket hotline at 861-5686 or get your tickets at any Bass ticket center. Outside California call 1-800-225-2277. ●

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The Bear Should Play the Gangway

by Tom Vindeed

Who cares if their combined records are 0-26? Can you imagine the type of game it would be? 42-41!

If both managers agree, I'll try to play it Sunday, July 6, at Lang Field as a fundraiser for Gay Games II. What do you say, teams? By the way, this is Lew Gilmour's idea.

Softball Sunday saw the Badlands dash the Rawhide's hopes of capturing 6th place in the playoffs when Dan Carlson's crew won 6-5. The Rawhide came back in their second game and downed the Eagles 7-2.

Trax rebounded from last week's game and humbled the Bear 17-2, while the Kokpit, playing errorless ball, skipped past the Cafe San Marcos 8-2. The Cafe must now await the outcome of the Trax vs. Badlands game to see if they get the 6th playoff spot. Take a bribe, Dan.

Pilsner Inn edged Capt. Video 4-2 before falling to the fabulous Hunks Golden Girls 9-6. The Pilsner cheerleaders' new sweat-

ers are spectacular, as are said cheerleaders.

Bob Docca's Casto Travel is making a move towards .500—they made the Gangway walk the plank 21-1. Ginger's nipped Amelia's Aviators 10-8, and the short-handed Pendulum defeated the Phone Booth 7-1.

'My comments about suspending the bylaws will appear in the July 10 issue. No games are scheduled for the next two weekends.'

If you are interested in playing in the first Jambalaya Free For All you must contact Becky at 626-6454. The player's fee is \$10

and it will be played at Christopher Field on Diamond Heights Blvd. Saturday, June 28, at 10 a.m. More than 25 players have signed up already, so make your reservation A.S.A.P.

My comments about suspending the bylaws will appear in the July 10 issue. No games are scheduled for the next two weekends.

STANDINGS

Golden Gate Division

Village	12-1
Hunks	9-4
Cafe San Marcos	9-4
Rawhide II	8-5
Pilsner Inn	7-6
Phone Booth	3-9
Amelia's	2-11
The Bear	0-13

Barbary Coast Division

Pendulum	13-0
Kokpit	12-1
Badlands	9-4
Trax	8-5
Casto Travel	6-7
Eagle	5-7
Ginger's	5-8
Capt. Video	2-10
Gangway	0-13

Reflections on the C.S.L.

by Rodger Soto

In the late '60s a group pf gay men met on Sundays to play volleyball at Golden Gate Park which was thought of as an activity to get gays out of the bars and into the sunshine. Then it dawned on Jack "Irene" McGowan and Peter "Puffer" Switzer to start a softball league tournament.

In 1971 the beginning dream was realized with a weekend tournament. Six teams participated and it was a tremendous success. The following year an independent league was formed and called the Gay Community Softball League. This was a feisty year with lots of egos clashing with many different concepts of what the league should be. From the beginning Metz of Sutter's Mill and a few other straight and bisexual friends were allowed to play, and it was then that the league changed its name to the Community Softball League of San Francisco.

In 1972 the league was registered and officers were elected and committees were formed. Peter Puffer was the commissioner, Les Balmain and Duke Joyce wrote the constitution, and Rich Carl and others wrote the by-laws. Rich, Woody, Cha-Cha, and Puffer were the umpires. Chuck Demming and David Van were the official scorekeepers, and I was the unofficial statistician. Doris and Bobby Pace were the first C.S.L. Sweethearts. I'm sure I'm leaving some important individuals out because it was a real joint effort on lots of people's part. As the league grew, with banquets and fundraiser games against the police, the competition also grew with many more straights and bisexuals added from the city league.

This worked very well for several years until 1977 when a group was added that was not in tune with the gay community. That year the first Gay World Series was started by the late Everett Hedrick and Duke Joyce. In 1978 thousands of dollars were raised to send our champs to the second Gay World Series in New

York. The cities, six in all, voted to only allow us to play if we could field an 80 percent gay team, 20 percent straight or bi. Our champions, Oil Can Harry's, chose not to play at all and all hell broke loose within the league and in the national press the gay communities were accused of reverse discrimination.

The next year a large segment of the league formed a new league, the Gay Softball League, with strong leadership from Tuffy Adams, Tony Neimger, Tom Vindeed, Bob Docca, and Ricky Bratton. The C.S.L. was also lucky to have Duke Joyce, Bill Chapman, George Zepp, Jr., and now Jim Redpath. The new leagues now are both so well established and should be proud that they have 29 organized teams that stand behind the gay community.

As I sat down to write this article I reflected on what a diversified group of people are involved in the C.S.L.—women, children, and men of all sexual persuasions, people of color, etc. I am very proud to live in a city where as a whole community we can stand together as one group and have friends of the gay community like Alan Cranston, John Molinari, Sharon McNight, and Rita Rockett. With morons like LaRouche running around we need to stand together. Together we can defeat the AIDS crisis as well as our enemies. Have a happy and safe Gay Pride Week and Fourth of July.

C.S.L. SCOREBOARD

George Zepp Jr. Division

Other Cafe	10 0
Cinch	6 4
Molinari's	5 5
Overflo/Slo Rush	5 6
S.B. Coots	1 9
Neigh-Hoods	1 10

Jack McGowan Division

Bunkhouse	8 3
Everett's	8 3
Beake Bros.	8 3
Rockin' Robins	6 5
Aspen	4 6
Maulers	1 9



Join these folks at GayRun '86 July 13

(Photo: B. O'Toole)

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Advisory Committee

The Women's Building is seeking new members for its expanded Women's Crafts Fair Advisory Committee.

Committee members assist The Women's Building plan, produce, and evaluate its annual Crafts Fair. They meet with Women's Building staff approximately 10 times per year to help establish guidelines for the Fair, such as its annual theme, the criteria for acceptance into the Fair, the focus of the event's publicity and outreach campaigns, and its entertainment programming. Committee members also are involved with long-range planning decisions affecting the scope and scale of this two-weekend event.

The Fair is the largest, most attended and lucrative event sponsored by the Women's Building. It combines craft and fine art exhibitions by women, entertainment, presentations by social service and political organizations, and demonstrations of traditional craft techniques with community outreach efforts. It has been organized since 1979 to highlight the work of more than 100 craftswomen.

For more information, please call Holly Fincke at 431-1180.

BOWLING

Pilsner Places

The other evening the Unknown Mystery Masked Super Skater, who was till this writing an unofficial undercover cub bowling news reporter, witnessed an unusually high number of bowlers entering Leticia's restaurant located on Market near Sanchez. Upon further investigation, it was learned that the First Place Pilsner I team of the '85/86 Winter season was belatedly celebrating its 62/26 victory. Talk about having a late dinner!

While we are on the subject of the Pilsner, on the team standing sheets of the 11th and 16th, guess what teams were occupying first place? Yes, the Pilsner Powder Puffs on Monday and the Pilsner

Leagues' annals of high achievement. Dicks At The Beach; Jerry's Kids; Hunk's; The Leftovers; Frantic Finishers; C.C. Riders; and Studstore just to name a few. Some of these newly formed teams are only in their first or second season and are already challenging the traditional leaders.

The Tavern Guild Leagues are welcoming more and more new younger bowlers into their ranks. The baton is slowly, but surely, being passed. As the soon-to-be old adage goes, bowlers may come and bowlers may go, but the Tavern Guild Leagues remain.

One reason for this longevity may be the caliber of bowlers the Tavern Guild Leagues attract, bowlers who realize winning isn't

'Most likely the only reason a Pilsner team has not copped first place on the Thursday league is because there isn't a Pilsner team in that league.'

Pin Guins on Wednesday. Most likely the only reason a Pilsner team has not copped first place on the Thursday league is because there isn't a Pilsner team in that league.

Pat Conlon and Pat Bonfiglio, the co-owners of the Pilsner Inn on Church Street, are certainly to be commended for their outstanding support of the gay bowling leagues. The Pilsner Inn sponsors no less than seven teams in the Tavern Guild Leagues. With that many teams, they could easily have a league of their own. If a league of their own is not particularly appealing, then for certain, when the free advertising space becomes available above the lanes, as it soon shall be, the Pilsner Pats should be among the first to hang a handsome 4x4 foot poster proclaiming the virtues of their establishment, of which community spirit is not the least.

Beyond a doubt, the Pilsner teams are hot and always have been. Nevertheless, we have some relatively new teams whose exploits on the lanes are burning their names into the Tavern Guild

everything, yet recognize doing one's best as an unwritten standard. Some of the bowlers who best epitomize these fine dual ideals are the following TGMBL 200+ers for 6/16.

Pat Conlon	236	200
Keith Ray		217
Ron Squires		212
Jay Merriman(608 series)	200	210
George Stevenson		205
Hugh Smith		203
John Seiler		201

Another group which is to be commended for its unswerving devotion to a grand ideal is the Gay Games II Bowling Committee members. After 14 arduous meetings, each of which lasted for hours and repeatedly sounded the depths of each member's imagination, a comprehensive tournament format was finally forged that adequately covers every conceivable angle. Thanks to the visions and continuing efforts of this dedicated band, we can look forward to a GGII Bowling event that will be a model of efficiency and fun.

J. R. DeYoung

PARK BOWL TAVERN GUILD BOWLING LEAGUES

Team Standings and Personal Achievements

TAVERN GUILD MONDAY LEAGUE (Week 9 of 20 - as of 6/16/86)		
League Average: NA		
1. Pilsner Powder Puffs	25	11
2. Park Bowl	23	13
3. Twin Peaks Tavern	22	14
4. Capricorn Coffees	21	15
5. Frantic Finishers	19	17
6. Pilsner Pugs	19	17
7. C.C. Riders	18	18
8. Welcome Home	17	19
9. Foul Play	16½	19½
10. Pendulum Crowd	16½	19½
11. Pilsner Pointless Sisters	16	20
12. Pecker Heads	15½	20
13. Studstore	12	24
14. The Unknown Bowlers	11½	24½

TAVERN GUILD WEDNESDAY LEAGUE (Week 8 of 20 - as of 6/11/86)		
League Average: NA		
1. Pilsner Pin Guins	23	9
2. Play With It, Ltd.	22	10
3. Pilsner I	21	11
4. Dicks At The Beach	21	11
5. Pilsner Potlickers	21	11
6. Park Bowl	20	12
7. Jerry's Kids	19	13
8. Hunk's	18	14
9. Pendulum Pandas	17	15
10. Ram's Head Bar	17	15

11. The Leftovers	15	17
12. Pilsner Pointless Sisters	14	18
13. On the Road Again	14	18
14. Gutter Girls	13½	18½
15. The Eagle	13	19
16. Opus I	13	19
17. Moby Dick	11	17
18. Play With It, Always	10	22
19. David Kelsey's Unmentionables	9	23
20. Pin Pricks	7½	24½

THURSDAY TAVERN GUILD LEAGUE (Week 8 of 21 - as of 6/12/86)		
League Average: NA		
1. Cock-a-Doodle-Do	19	13
2. Transformers	19	13
3. Station Studs	18½	13½
4. Ron's Records	18	14
5. Trax Trash	18	14
6. S.F. Eagle	17	15
7. Trax-Trix	17	15
8. Park Bowl	16	16
9. Sticky Bun Bears	15	17
10. Side Saddle Tramps	15	17
11. Detour	14½	17½
12. Reservation #69	14	18
13. Play With It, Ltd.	13	19
14. The 69 Club II	12	20

Compiled by Jerry R. DeYoung

The Parade Plays Ball

by Miss Terry

YOU MISSED IT! The sports event of the year! June 14 at 7 p.m., the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Parade Committee and the Special Needs Committee hosted a very special basketball game to benefit and celebrate the existence of special needs and disability access services at this year's Parade and celebration June 29.

The Parade Committee showed up in full regalia, bringing its own specially trained Parade cheerleaders, as well as the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, who came to cheer for the other team. There was only one small catch to this basketball game—everyone played in wheelchairs. The Parade Committee, being good sports, decided to try its hand against local disabled women athletes, and got into wheelchairs for the first time for an exciting round of wheelchair basketball.

The disabled women athletes, "the girls," had all been playing serious wheelchair basketball for years. How would this showdown begin? The Parade Committee kicked off its shoes and rolled onto the court ready to play. The "girls" quickly grabbed the ball and raced down the court for their first basket. Meanwhile, the Parade Committee was busy discussing strategy, with inspiring remarks such as, "Where's the motor?" and "How do you get this damn thing started?" and "What do you mean, no brakes?" heard across the court.

Although most of them had not played in wheelchairs before, the real shocker was that some of them had never played basketball either. A well-known Parade per-

sonality was overheard muttering: "My, my what a big ball. Where's the basket?"

"The girls" quickly threw 22 points on the scoreboard, while the Parade Committee figured out how to get down the court and keep from tipping over. They had the referee push them. The disabled "girls" team realized the Parade Committee needed a handicap and were often seen handing them the ball during rebounds. After falling out of their chairs for a while, the Parade Committee finally learned how to handle the ball and eventually scored—12 points on the scoreboard, and a few people asked them for dates after the game.

The Parade Committee cheerleaders wet wild with a rendition of Give me a T, R, A, S, H, what do you get, TRASH, cheer, and the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence rallied along with their own cheer. Now, what was it they said? At any rate, the fans were aroused and cheered "the girls"



Wheelchair B-Ball

(Photo: A. Brite)


on to a 28-12 victory.


All this good fun and cheer was for a good cause because the money goes to benefit Special Needs services, which provides accessibility for people who are disabled, visually or hearing impaired, elderly, fat, people with AIDS or ARC, chronic or other illnesses, and others with special needs, to enable them to attend the event with safety, comfort, and dignity. Services provided include two viewing areas (one in front of City Hall and one in front of the Orpheum Theater), parking on Larkin between McAllister and Golden Gate, a van and shuttle between the two areas and parking, BART access from the Civic Center elevator exit, a barricaded access corridor, metal chairs and plastic chairs for seating, cots, tables with umbrellas, food at the stage, water, and coordinators on site. As well there will be no smoking, scents, or perfumes in the special needs areas. Anyone who wants to volunteer to help out with Special Needs services or who just wants more information can call the Parade office at 861-5404.

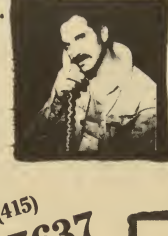
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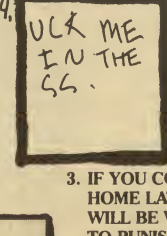
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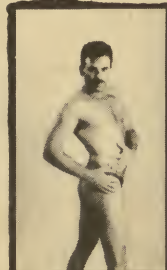
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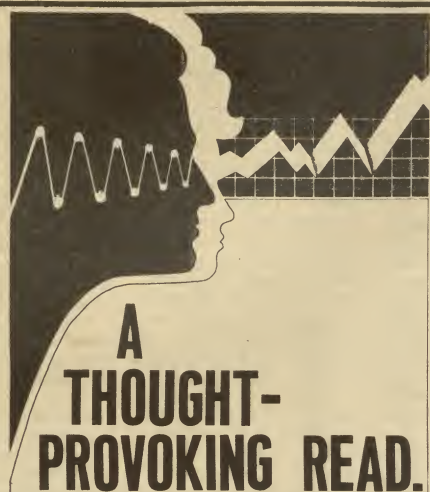
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Outside sales & telemarketing
positions at The Gay Book (415)
863-2766. E29

NGLTF Development Director,
D.C. Office to design/oversee
development/fundraising activi-
ties. Grantwriting exp. preferred.
Send resume/cover letter: NGLTF
1517 U St., NW, Washington, DC
20009. E26

Body Shop Models/Escorts needs
Blacks, Latins, well hung men and
bodybuilders. John, San Fran.
563-7588, South Bay (408)
977-0310. E26

Houseboy needed by Nudist Pro-
fessor with spectacular view
house & garden in Santa Cruz.
(408) 475-0867 collect. E26

2 Male Dancers for Pat Mont-
clair's new revue "Bazzaz 86".
Auditions Sat, June 28, 3-6 p.m.
Kimo's, 1351 Polk St. E26

SF AIDS FOUNDATION

TRAINING COORDINATOR
General Statement of Duties: Under direction
of the Project director, AIDS Home
Care and Hospital Training Project, Califor-
nia Nurses Association; and Northern
California Services Director, San Francisco
AIDS Foundation is responsible for the im-
plementation of San Francisco AIDS Founda-
tion's part of the California Nurses
Association's statewide AIDS Home Care
and Hospital Training Project. A program
to train key health care providers to train
others in their community throughout the
state. Salary: \$24,440—\$25,940 plus
fringe benefits. Minimum Qualifications:
BS. in Nursing with licensure as a
registered nurse in California. One year of
experience in a hospital or home care set-
ting and at least one year of experience in
educating health care providers. Must
have willingness to commit to extensive
travel. Must have a serviceable privately
owned vehicle for travel (mileage reim-
bursed). Submit letter of application and
resume to: Personnel, San Francisco AIDS
Foundation, 333 Valencia Street/4th Floor,
San Francisco, CA 94103 by 5 p.m. June
27. E26

Erotic nude perf. for adult gay
cinema. Apply 729 Bush. 11 AM
-4 PM. EB

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Keep It Healthy! Class in
Self Healing/Spirit-Body
Communication for Gay Men
& Women. Charles 839-2421 E26

Body Services

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821-0181. E26

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Nonsexual • Bob 843-1410 • \$25
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Swedish Massage-San Jose
\$25/60 min. ★Certified★
Anthony (408) 288-6169, same
day appt. Checks OK! E26

CERTIFIED MASSEUR

John Morrison 386-0152
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24 HOUR LIVE ACTION NETWORK



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Only \$2.00 per call (Toll charges may apply in some areas)
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ILLUSTRATIONS: Randy West

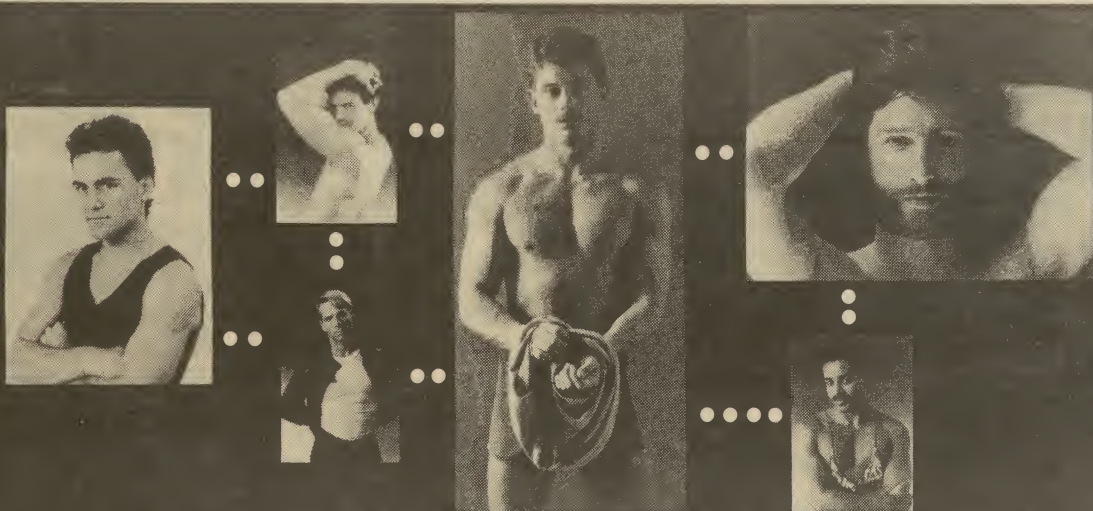
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- You must be 18 or over to use this service.
- Call one of the following numbers between 1 PM & 9 PM June 26 through July 2 ONLY!
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- Meet Someone Line (415) 346-6910
- S&M/Leather Line (415) 346-6920

- You will hear ringing followed by a dial tone (if you don't get a dial tone right away continue ringing for five minutes).
- WHEN YOU HEAR THE DIAL TONE PUNCH IN THIS I.D. CODE 10-00-000 RAPIDLY AND EVENLY (from a touch-tone phone only).

- When you hear the "beep" tone you are connected to another caller. Say hello and begin speaking. If you are not connected immediately wait at least five minutes. If you need to call back for any reason wait one minute.
- PLEASE—Never hang up on another caller. Politely say "goodbye" if you don't wish to talk for any reason.

IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE CALL: (415) 346-6277
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR TO JOIN THE CONNECTER, CALL (415) 346-8747
HEAR WHAT YOU'VE BEEN MISSING—CALL TODAY!

The Connector will assume no responsibility or liability for anything that may occur as a result of anyone you may meet through our service!